the SHADOW

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BUSH MOVES TOWARD MARTIAL LAW

New Bill Proposed To Stop Him

By Frank Morales

In a stealth maneuver, President Bush has signed into law a provision which, according to Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vermont), will encourage the President to declare federal martial law (1). It does so by revising the **Insurrection Act**, a set of laws that limits the President's ability to deploy troops within the United States. The Insurrection Act (10 U.S.C.331 -335) has historically, along with the **Posse Comitatus Act** (18 U.S.C. 1385), helped to enforce strict prohibitions on military involvement in domestic law enforcement. With one cloaked swipe of his pen, Bush is seeking to undo those prohibitions.

Public Law 109-364, known as the **"John Warner Defense Authorization Act of 2007"** (H.R.5122) (2), which was signed by the commander-in-chief on October 17, 2006, in a private Oval Office ceremony, allows the President to declare a "public emergency" and station troops anywhere in America and take control of state-based National Guard units without the consent of the governor or local authorities, in order to "suppress public disorder." It also empowers the government to seize control of private corporations.

President Bush seized this unprecedented power on the very same day that he signed the equally odious **Military Commissions Act of 2006.** In a sense, the two laws complement one another. One allows for torture and detention abroad, while the other seeks to enforce acquiescence at home, preparing to order the military onto the streets of America. Remember, the term for putting an area under military law enforcement control is precise: the term is "martial law."

Section 1076 of the massive Authorization Act, which grants the Pentagon another $500 billion plus for its ill-advised adventures, is entitled "Use of the Armed Forces in Major Public Emergencies." Section 333, "Major public emergencies; interference with State and Federal law" states that "the President may employ the armed forces, including the National Guard in Federal service, to restore public order and enforce the laws of the United States when, as a result of a natural disaster, epidemic, or other serious public health emergency, terrorist attack or incident, or other condition in any State or possession of the United States, the President determines that domestic violence has occurred to such an extent that the constituted authorities of the State or possession are incapable of ("refuse" or "fail" in) maintaining public order, "in order to suppress, in any State, any insurrection, domestic violence, unlawful combination, or conspiracy."

For the current President, "enforcement of the laws to restore public order" means to commandeer guardsmen from any state, over the objections of local governmental, military and local police entities; ship them off to another state; conscript them in a law enforcement mode; and set them loose against "disorderly" citizenry - protesters, possibly, or those who object to forced vaccinations and quarantines in the event of a bio-terror event.

The law also facilitates militarized police round-ups and detention of protesters, so called "illegal aliens," "potential terrorists" and other "undesirables" for detention in facilities already contracted for and under construction by Halliburton. That's right. Under the cover of a trumped-up "immigration emergency" and the frenzied militarization of the southern border, detention camps are being constructed right under our noses, camps designed for anyone who resists the foreign and domestic agenda of the Bush administration.

An article on "recent contract awards" in a recent issue of the slick, insider "Journal of Counterterrorism & Homeland Security International" reported that "global engineering and technical services powerhouse KBR [Kellog, Brown & Root] announced in January, 2006, that its Government and Infrastructure division was awarded an Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract to support U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facilities in the event of an emergency." "With a maximum total value of $385 million over a five year term," the report notes, "the contract is to be executed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," "for establishing temporary detention and processing capabilities to augment existing ICE Detention and Removal Operations (DRO) - in the event of an emergency influx of immigrants into the U.S., or to support the rapid development of new programs." The report points out that "KBR is the engineering and construction subsidiary of Halliburton." (3)

So, in addition to authorizing another $532.8 billion for the Pentagon, including a $70-billion "supplemental provision" which covers the cost of the ongoing, mad military maneuvers in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other places, the new law, signed by the president in a private White House ceremony, further collapses the historic divide between the police and the military: a tell-tale sign of a rapidly consolidating police state in America, all accomplished amidst ongoing U.S. imperial pretensions of global domination, sold to an "emergency managed" and seemingly willfully gullible public as a "global war on terrorism."

Make no mistake about it: the de-facto repeal of the Posse Comitatus Act (PCA) is an ominous assault on American democratic tradition and jurisprudence. The 1878 Act, which reads, "Whoever, except in cases and under circumstances expressly authorized by the Constitution or Act of Congress, willfully uses any part of the Army or Air Force as a posse comitatus or otherwise to execute the laws shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both," is the only U.S. criminal statute that outlaws military operations directed against the American people under the cover of 'law enforcement.' As such, it has been the best protection we've had against the power-hungry intentions of an unscrupulous and reckless executive, an executive intent on using force to enforce its will.

Unfortunately, in October, the President dealt posse comitatus, along with American democracy, a near fatal blow. Consequently, it will take an aroused citizenry to undo the damage wrought by these horrendous Acts, part and parcel, as we have seen, of a long train of abuses and outrages perpetrated by this authoritarian administration.

So far, there has been no outcry in the American media, and little reaction from our elected officials in Congress. On September 19, 2006, a lone Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vermont) noted that the 2007 Defense Authorization Act contained a "widely opposed provision to allow the President more control over the National Guard [adopting] changes to the Insurrection Act, which will make it easier for this or any future President to use the military to restore domestic order without the consent of the nation's governors."

Senator Leahy went on to stress that, "we certainly do not need to make it easier for Presidents to declare martial law. Invoking the Insurrection Act and using the military for law enforcement activities goes against some of the central tenets of our democracy. One can easily envision governors and mayors in charge of an emergency having to constantly look over their shoulders while someone who has never

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EDITORIALS

RUDY GIULIANI: DICTATOR OF NEW YORK

Will America Let Him Be Their Fuhrer Too?

By A. Kronstadt

We veteran New Yorkers remember the Giuliani years with loathing, and each of us have our own horror stories. I remember that day when at least ten cops, uniformed and undercover, poured into Tompkins Square Park with an arrest van. When they could not find enough beer drinkers and pot smokers to fill the van, they started hassling all of the neighborhood regulars at random. An old woman who lived in the environs of the park was sitting in her usual spot when a young male officer walked up and pointed to a long abandoned beer bottle under the bench, five feet from where she was sitting. He accused her of drinking it, without the least trace of respect due to one's elders, and pulled out his ticket book. At least a dozen people insisted to the cop that the woman had nothing to do with the bottle, and each, including myself, was threatened with arrest in a tone of voice that none of us had ever heard except in a Nazi movie.

This was in the salad days of the Giuliani administration, in the spring of 1995, shortly after the cops were given their dark blue,

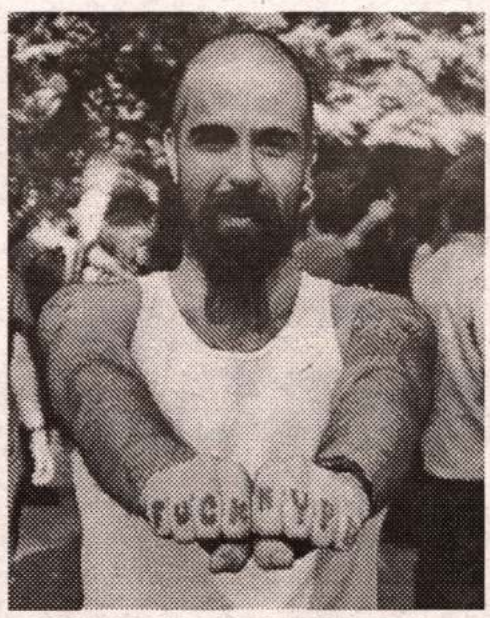
almost black uniforms and the power to arrest people and put them in jail for 48 hours and would for things like beer drinking and pot smoking, which had been considered normal behavior in New York for dozens of years. The police just got more and more arrogant, until genuine atrocities started to emerge, including torture and the shooting of completely innocent people, that made the expression "Giuliani Time," whether Abner Louima really heard it from the cops or not, a household expression for American fascism.

"Giuliani Time" was not a time of law and order, but of governmental lawlessness. Not only were the police riding roughshod over all of our constitutional rights, but the bureaucrats put in power by Rudy were robbing the city blind. Russell Harding, son of Liberal Party boss Ray Harding, a vital Giuliani ally, was appointed head of the city's Housing Development Administration. In that capacity he stole a quarter of a million dollars in HDA funds and spent it on his general living expenses, including a child pornography habit that eventually landed him in jail. Giuliani's last police commissioner, Bernard Kerik, like many members of Rudy's own family, had deep connections among the mob – he gave out the taxpayers' money to his goombah friends and got off scott-free.

Giuliani's so-called heroism in regard to the events of 9/11 is a complete fraud. Look at those 9/11 tapes in which people in the buildings are being told to stay where they are and await instructions. Because firemen and emergency personnel knew that the people in the Twin Towers were being told this, they felt impelled to make their foray into the doomed buildings and were themselves killed by the hundreds. If Giuliani had done anything to remedy that situation I would not object to bestowing

upon him the smarmy title of "America's Mayor," but in fact, his response was for shit and people died on account of him. Earlier that morning, while the towers were still on fire, he blurted out to ABC's Peter Jennings that while at the site, he had been told that the buildings were going to collapse -- why did he not then order his people out before they got killed? [Indeed, there are some that read even more sinister meaning into that statement. (See: <http://www.911weknow.com/911-mysteries-movie html>)

Rudolph Giuliani is a very dangerous man, a threat to this nation's tradition of tolerance, at least as bad as Joe McCarthy and Richard Nixon. My exposé of the lifelong friendship between Rudolph Giuliani and the abusive Monsignor Alan Placa [See story in this issue -- Ed.] is the first in a series of SHADOW exposés, based on public domain information, intended to help put the Giuliani campaign out of business, and thereby avenge the old lady who had the misfortune of sitting next to that beer bottle in Tompkins Square Park.



SHAUN "FUCK NYPD" HAGGARD: 1977-2007

I met Shaun as we were planning shows in Tompkins Square Park last year. I was impressed by him right away, sensing a decent guy and that he was for real. During one of our meetings in the park, he got on the case of some crusties because he didn't want a young girl new to the scene getting taken advantage of. I respected him for that.

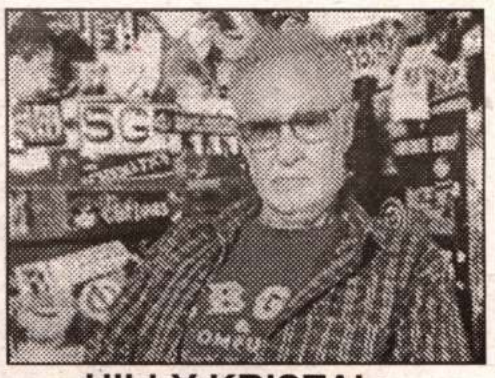
When we first met at a show in the park, he showed me his knuckles, on which he had tatooed the letters "FUCK NYPD." He told me he had been harassed and even beaten at one point by cops who didn't like those letters. We were going to run his story with his knuckle photos in the SHADOW--now those shots are part of this obituary.

I've seen way too many people die way too early because of something as stupid as heroin. If anything is to be learned from Shaun's needless death in February, it is to STOP those we care about from using death drugs. If you really care, you'll intervene BEFORE you lose someone you love, even if they hate you for it. At least they'll be alive.

Shaun was the genuine article: a truly free spirit, vital, hedonistic, full of positive energy, protective of others, sincere, a good soul, with countless friends all over the country.

Shaun lived the life he loved and he loved the life he lived. He was a vital force in our community and we will all miss him dearly....

--Chris Flash



HILLY KRISTAL: 1931-2007

Hilly Kristal, founder and owner of the legendary punk club CBGBs, passed away on August 28, after a year long battle with lung cancer.

Before opening CBGB's in 1973, Hilly had managed the Village Vanguard jazz club in the 1960s and his own place called "Hilly's" on East Ninth Street. Opening what he intended to be a country and blues bar, (CBGB stood for "Country, Blue Grass Blues") at 315 Bowery, Hilly allowed alternative musicians to use his place on Sundays and saw CBGBs become the most famous showcase for punk and alternative music over the following three decades.

In his history of CBGBs, Hilly wrote: "I thought it would be a whole lot of fun to have my own club with all this kind of music playing there. Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, things didn't quite work out the way I'd expected."

In October of 2006, after years of fighting his landlord, the Bowery Residents Committee (BRC), a not-for-profit organization funded with corporate donations and city and state tax money, that sought to make a huge profit by demanding more than $30,000 per month from CBGBs, Hilly closed the club, vowing to resurrect CBGBs elsewhere in the city. Unfortunately, aside from a clothing and souvenir shop on Saint Mark's Place, this never came to pass. [The whole story can be seen in SHADOW #51 and at: http://shadowpress.org]

The death of CBGBs and of Hilly Kristal is more of the cultural genocide sweeping New York City.

– Chris Flash

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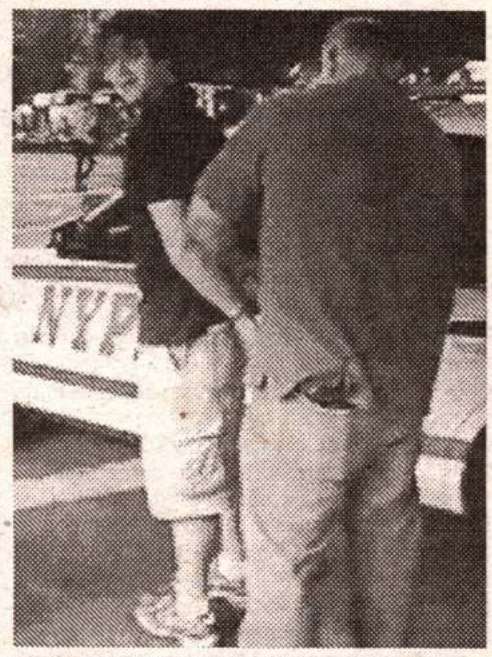
NYPD BIKE THEFT

Cops Snatch Dozen Bikes in "Operation Bike Raid"

By Gabby Sloan

VIDEO TAPE + PHOTOS BY ROBERT CARNEVALE + CAROLINE DORN

THE CAMERA-SHY LT. CORCORAN



CORCORAN ARRESTS CARNEVALE FOR ASKING HIS NAME

On the evening of May 30, Ninth Precinct cops, led by Lieutenant Corcoran, executed "Operation: Bike Raid" on East Sixth Street, between First and Second Avenues.

As cops with special metal cutting saws chewed through locks and chains on bikes locked to parking meters and streets signs, Sixth Street resident Robert Carnevale confronted them, having received a call from his girlfriend outside his apartment building.

Carnevale rang buzzers in buildings on his block to warn his neighbors that their bikes were being taken and then returned to the scene of the crime, taking photos of cops loading the dozen or so bikes they had just stolen into two unmarked dark blue vans with paneling over the side windows. (These vans can be seen regularly parked outside the Ninth Precinct on East Fifth Street.)

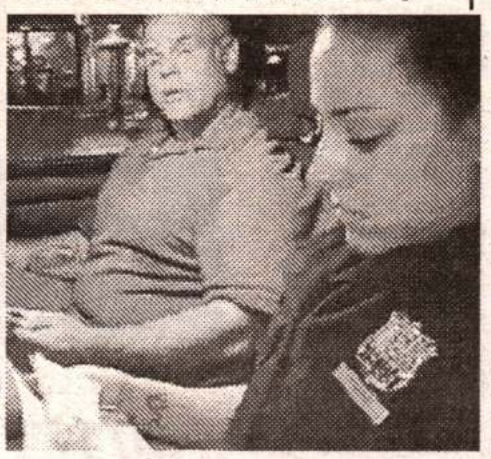
After taking still photos, Carnevale switched his digital camera to video mode, filming the cops in action. At one point, he approached the plain-clothed Lt. Corcoran, who was obviously in charge of the operation. Annoyed that Carnevale had asked him for his name, Corcoran mumbled it. When asked to repeat his name by spelling it, Corcoran told Carnevale: "You got my name, I did you a favor. . . . now I'm going to lock you up." In addition to arresting Carnevale, Corcoran busted a woman passing by who dared to ask what was going on. He charged both with "Disorderly Conduct"and put them through the system.

At a press conference five days later addressing the bike thefts and arrests by the cops on Sixth Street, civil rights attorney (and New York City's true Public Advocate) Norman Siegel said that the "Bike Raid" might have resulted from a complaint issued by "Community" Board Three.

Siegel noted that in September 2005, a judge had ruled that the city violated the rights of three cyclists when cops clipped their locks and took their bikes without warning. "The unlawful activity here is not by the cyclists, it's by the cops," Siegel said.

[You can see Robert Carnevale's video of Operation Bike Theft and his filmed arrest on-line at: <http://blip.tv/file/ 252942/>]

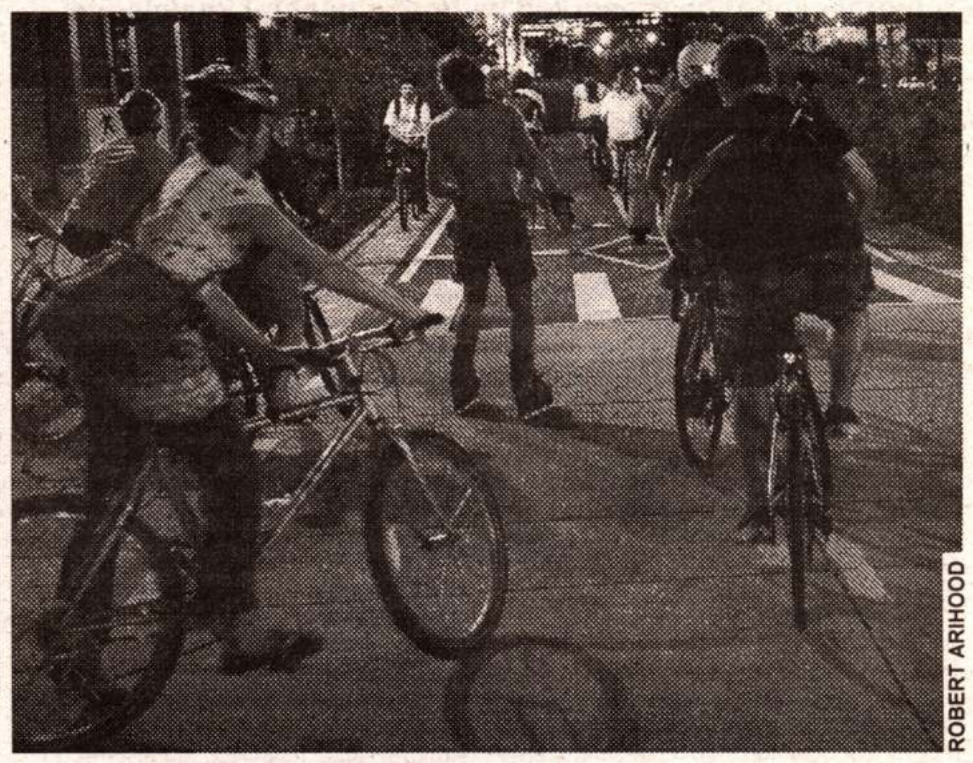
9TH PRECINCT COPS STEAL BIKES



OUT-OF-CONTROL CORCORAN AFTER FALSE ARRESTS

CRITICAL MASS BIKERS RIDE AGAIN

By Chris Flash



ROBERT ARIHOOD

CRITICAL MASS RIDERS START RIDE ALONG WEST SIDE HIGHWAY

On August 31, more than 100 bike riders gathered at Union Square Park for the monthly Critical Mass bike ride taking place on the last Friday of each month.

From about 7pm on, bikers gathered on the north side of the park along East 17th Street. As their numbers grew, bikers were entertained with a performance by the Puppet State Players. Standing by were a large number of cops, also waiting for the ride to begin, in order to pick off passing bike riders for any perceived infraction, no matter how slight, real or imagined.

As a result of long running police harassment, Critical Mass ride organizers have had to come up with clever methods to circumvent the cops. This has included splitting the ride into several small groups of seemingly unconnected bike riders and then re-gathering at other locations to resume the ride. To bypass cops stationed at Union Square Park, Critical Mass riders have even taken their bikes into the subway there and re-emerged elsewhere to keep riding.

This night, Critical Mass ride organizers had another surprise for the cops. Word was quietly spread among the gathered bike riders that the ride would begin that night from Pier 57 along the Hudson River, outside the Marine and Aviation building.

According to Bill DiPaolo, director of Times Up, the group that promotes pollution-free transportation and helps to organize Critical Mass rides in New York City, this site was chosen to commemorate the third anniversary of the 2004 Republican National Convention in New York City, during which political activists, protestors, Critical Mass riders and others caught in plastic dayglo netting by police were detained and held for several days in this building, a former truck depot, without due process, despite court orders obtained for their release. As a result of the mass illegal detentions, the Marine and Aviation building was called "Guantanamo on the Hudson" by activists, referring to the concentration camp run by the US at its base in Cuba, where torture and sensory deprivation have been inflicted upon detainees held there.

Slowly but surely, the Union Square bikers made their way to Pier 57, with no police accompaniment. The ride began from there at about 9pm, with bikers passing many of the locations where arrests of Critical Mass riders had taken place during the Republican Convention. As they usually do on their rides, bikers stopped several times along the way and raised their bikes high over their heads to cheers from bystanders.

Critical Mass riders told the SHADOW that no one was arrested and that no cops were seen anywhere along the ride. After the latest Critical Mass ride, Bill of Times Up told the SHADOW: "It is inspiring that people in the bike community keep coming out and stay strong, despite police harassment. Every year, biking is on the increase in New York City."

[Critical Mass rides will take place, meeting on the north side of Union Square Park at 7pm, on the last Friday of each month. From there, who knows where they will go? Check out <http://times-up.org/> for more.]

9/11 TRUTH: FOUNDATION FOR CHANGE

By Les Jamieson (NY911Truth.org)

"Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people, who have... a right, an indisputable, unalienable, indefeasible, divine right to that most dreaded and envied kind of knowledge, I mean the characters and conduct of their rulers." – James Adams

As we approach the sixth anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001, an assessment of the national viewpoint is in order. According to an October 2006 CBS/NY Times poll, only 16% of Americans believe the official government account on some level. Among those challenging the official story are academics, architects, engineers, veterans, and former intelligence officials. Many more people need to take the time to gain a comprehensive understanding of why the official account is so implausible and to understand the historical context behind it.

The official account of the events of 9/11, amounting to "the box cutter/incompetence/fire theory," goes something like this: 19 Arabs, some of whom were amateur pilots, armed with box cutters, simultaneously hijacked four commercial US passenger jets within a one hour period and, despite years of detailed foreknowledge about similar plots, our multi-trillion dollar intelligence and defense apparatus got it all wrong and were comprehensively defeated that day. Yet, within an hour of the crashes of the four planes, a picture of Osama Bin Laden was on every major TV network; within 24 hours, so were the pictures and names of the 19 Arabs.

The US intelligence "failure" included allowing an attack by a plane on the center of the most expensive, highly developed military facility known to man, the Pentagon. Despite the presence of 84 surveillance cameras and FOIA (Freedom Of Information Act) requests to produce images from each camera, no clear photos of what created the 18-foot hole through three steel-reinforced sections of the Pentagon have ever been seen.

Furthermore, the official story tells us that two 110-story steel-framed office towers (1 + 2 World Trade Center) and a 47 steel-framed office tower (7 World Trade Center), which was not struck by a plane, all collapsed at virtual free-fall speed, due to fires caused by jet fuel and office materials, despite the fact that the fires would have to have been much hotter and burn much longer in order to weaken the steel in the buildings to the point of failing.

Although the shock and awe produced by the visual images and incineration of nearly 3,000 people that day have been seared into our collective psyche, alternative researchers began shortly after 9/11 to reveal serious anomalies and inconsistencies in the official story. To date, dozens of independently-produced books and documentaries have been produced, providing the public with what the corporate media and Congress have failed to: an objective analysis explaining how 9/11 occurred and why.

Since space here doesn't allow for a deep analysis of the 15 or so major categories and 35 sub-categories, all of which show the government's account is untrue [see <www.911proof.com> -- Ed.], a review of historic examples makes it clear that we've been conned. In case you've fallen for the common derogative label of "conspiracy theory" being used to discredit any questioning of the official story, a history lesson is necessary. U.S. state-sponsored events have launched every foreign military intervention since the Mexican-American War in 1848, based on manufactured events giving the appearance of surprise attacks coming from foreign enemies.

Investigate the truth behind the explosion of the USS Maine in Havana harbor that justified the 1898 Spanish-American War in which the U.S. stole Spanish possessions and colonies in the Southern hemisphere; the Roosevelt administration's 10 point plan to provoke an attack by Japan and then allow the 1941 Pearl Harbor attack to get the U.S. into World War 2; the non-existent 1964 Gulf of Tonkin "incident" that led to a Congressional resolution authorizing U.S. military action in Southeast Asia.

And there is the conspiracy behind the creation of the Federal Reserve Act in 1913 by which our country's money supply is controlled by a private consortium of bankers known as the Federal Reserve; "Operation Northwoods," a military plan from 1962 calling for American targets to get hit by remote controlled planes, among other incidents, in order to justify an invasion of Cuba; the assassinations of President Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Robert F. Kennedy, all by "lone nuts," in order to, among other things, ensure that these persons of influence would not interfere with the expected bonanza to be reaped by the U.S. military-industrial complex in Vietnam; the stolen presidential elections of 2000 and 2004.

These are all actual conspiracies which have been well-documented. Considering the litany of lies we've been dealt about the reasons for invading Iraq, about torturing prisoners, about illegal wiretapping, about Hurricane Katrina -- is there any reason to believe we've been told the truth about 9/11? To all of a sudden believe the official story goes directly against logic.

When looked at with common sense and an historic perspective, it becomes clear the events of September 11, 2001 were made to happen in order to justify the U.S.-led invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, laying the foundation for future U.S. attacks and invasions in the Middle East. Plans to invade Afghanistan and Iraq were already formulated by the time of 9/11 and within days, George Bush, Don Rumsfeld and Richard Perle were talking about the need to invade Iraq, despite the fact that it was known that Iraq played no part in the events of 9/11. Seven months prior to 9/11, AT&T (American Telephone and Telegraph) was approached by the U.S. government about wiretapping Americans. Six weeks after 9/11, in the midst of the hysteria over deadly anthrax being sent to members of Congress and the media -- attacks sourced back to a US bio-weapons lab located at Fort Dietrick, in Maryland -- the PATRIOT Act was rammed through Congress. We were then in the clutches of an official "terror propaganda campaign" and the Department of Homeland Security was born. Remember the color alerts? This was the atmosphere of terror required to get Americans to willingly give up civil liberties in a bargain for the government's protection racket. (For some more pertinent history, you'll find it chilling how closely this resembles developments in pre-war Nazi Germany.)

Some people are willing to acknowledge many government crimes but are unwilling to deal with the prospect that anyone in the government could be behind the atrocity of 9/11. Surely, it shatters our sensibilities, but look further. How many hundreds of thousands of American soldiers were exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam? How many hundreds of thousands of American soldiers have been exposed to depleted uranium in Iraq and Kosovo? How many hundreds of thousands of workers and residents in lower Manhattan were exposed to lethal levels of toxins in the air on and after 9/11, when they were told it was safe to go shopping?

To be clear, only a highly specialized and covert team could have carried out such a sophisticated operation, so blaming the government is misleading. However, in a larger sense, Congress has to bear much of the blame for going along with the Bush administration's myth. Furthermore, we the people have to accept blame for allowing the deception to last this long and for allowing the Bush administration to wantonly exploit 9/11 for everything it has done to violate the U.S. Constitution, as well as international law.

After considering the historical examples and exposure of falsehoods used to justify the erosion of civil liberties in pursuit of extending the U.S. empire overseas, does the official story add up? Many New Yorkers know that the answer is "no."

Now there is an opportunity to take matters into our own hands. A group of 9/11 activists have been working to create a ballot initiative for the November 6, 2007 general election which will enable New York City voters to create a new, independent 9/11 investigation. A feature of this initiative will be to create a New York City Attorney General position in order to facilitate the new investigation by addressing any legal challenges and enforcing subpoenas, as well as addressing a myriad of issues adversely affecting groups of New Yorkers. This is an opportunity to have a role in our own governance and to make sure that a genuine effort is made in investigating the truth behind the events of 9/11. To learn more, download a petition, and volunteer, go to: <www.nyc911initiative.org> or call: 646-537-1755.

To find out more about 9/11, attend the 9/11 Truth: Ready For Mainstream weekend at the Great Hall of Cooper Union at East Seventh Street and Bowery on September 8 and 9 that will feature many speakers, investigators, and new information relating to 9/11. For details, go to: <http://ready4mainstream.ny911truth.org>

Additionally, come to the 9/11 Info Resource Series held on Sunday nights at the rear room of the Saint Marks Church at East 10th Street at Second Avenue, where you will view cutting-edge documentaries and hear educational presentations conveying knowledge about 9/11 and related conspiracies that you won't find elsewhere. For film schedule and times, go to: <www.ny911truth.org> or call: 212-714-7147.

Let's face it. These are tumultuous times. We can see this as danger and fall victim to fear, or see this as opportunity and become part of a great awakening of people willing to create a power shift. It has been six years since the horrific attacks of 9/11. Let's honor the victims through the relentless pursuit of truth and accountability.

"I remember getting a call from the fire commander and they were not sure they were gonna be able to contain the fire, and I said 'We've had such a terrible loss of life, maybe the smartest thing to do is pull it,' and they made that decision to pull, and then we watched the building collapse" – real estate developer Larry Silverstein, WTC leaseholder and owner of Silverstein Properties, reveals true cause of collapse of 7 World Trade Center on PBS documentary "America Rebuilds" (September 2002)

Free 9/11-related videos + documentaries can be seen at: <http://www.911docs.net/#911.Documentaries>

FREE SCREENING OF "911 MYSTERIES" IN UNION SQUARE PARK ON 9/12

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THIRD STREET LANDLORDS TEST LOOPHOLE IN RENT CONTROL LAWS

Tenants Fight Evictions Over Building Conversion to Landlord "Mansion"

By Honey West

[**Editor's Note**: Since the end of World War II, New York has had rent control and rent stabilization laws on the books that protect tenants from arbitrary eviction and that set maximum percentages on rent increases. The original laws were enacted in the time of Mayor Fiorello La Guardia as an acknowledgment that rents spiraling out of control destroy communities, and that society needs to keep some kind of lid on the price of housing.

Once covering a wide category of buildings, these laws have now been gutted to the extent that they now cover only a fraction of the housing stock that they once did. Co-op and condo conversions and the exemption of recently constructed buildings from the rent protection laws have pushed more of New York's rental housing into a free market inaccessible to the city's middle class and working class majorities. With the over-valuation of Manhattan real estate now at record highs, landlords continue to look for gaps in the laws, enabling them to attack whichever tenants prove most vulnerable.

Changes in the rent laws enacted by a series of Republican New York state administrations, including that of Governor George Pataki, in conjunction with Republicans in the New York State Legislature led by Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, helped enlarge these loopholes and empower landlords to evict even more tenants formerly protected by rent regulations. They have also packed State courts with judges subservient to their friends and supporters in the real estate industry, who lack any commitment to the original intent of New York's rent regulations and who dispense the kind of junk justice described below, in cases where tenants are involved.

The following report was written by a resident of 47 East Third Street, a building housing a group of Lower East Side tenants who have not given up under fire.]

Our story at 47 East Third Street is sadly not a unique one, though our fear is that it has the potential to destroy the homes and lives of our community and of those across all 5 boroughs. In August 2003, one of the tenants in our building, living there since 1981, received a "Notice of Non-Renewal" from our landlords, Alistair and Catherine (Yatrakis) Economakis. The Notice said that his rent stabilized lease would not be renewed because they not only needed his apartment, but the entire six story, 11,575 square foot tenement building containing 15 apartments for their own "personal use."

Their landmark district Cobble Hill 4 story brownstone, which they are "forced" to share with other members of the family--among them landlord and real estate investor Peter Yatrakis and his wife Kathryn Yatrakis, Dean of Academic Life and Professor of Urban Studies at Columbia University--was just too small for them. Alistair Economakis, the son of Greek shipping magnate Alexander Economakis, no doubt shared his wife's sense of entitlement.

Their grand plan was to turn our building into a mansion with "5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, a private gym, a library, a utility room, a playroom, a study, a two floor living room/kitchen area with a walkway overlooking the living room, and an entire floor for use as a "nanny's suite." (The Economakis' self-serving rationale for needing all of this space is viewable on their website at: <http:/www.economakis.com> -- the landlords' claims on their site are debunked on the tenants' website at: <http://47e3.org>)

We all got together immediately to decide how we were going to fight this. Most of the tenants in the building have been there at least a decade and half of them have lived there since the late 1970s, when East Third Street, as well as the rest of the neighborhood, was "undesirable." Several children had been born in our building–two of them were now young adults. Everyone had been active in the community through the years--in the schools, the gardens, political causes, art, theater, music, church. Contrary to the popular rent stabilization myth force-fed to the public by the real estate industry, no one was a millionaire with a second home, no one was illegally living somewhere else, no one was paying $50 a month, no one had the money to buy an apartment. Yes, we were "hanging on" to our apartments, because this is our COMMUNITY and our HOME.

A lot of things we had assumed about rent stabilization were wrong, or not quite as they seemed, and the law was certainly not "tenant friendly," as touted by the greed estate industry. Eight years of [NY Governor] Pataki, [NY State Senator] Bruno and company acting as landlord lapdogs have left the rent regulations that were supposed to protect low and moderate income tenants gutted and the system almost impossible for the average person to negotiate. This would become another full time job for all of us.

In our case, we found that the "Owner Occupancy" section of the Rent Stabilization Law was being abused to evict the whole building. The language here is purposely vague, to the benefit of the landlords It says that an owner can take "one or more units" in a rent stabilized building for "personal use,' meaning him/herself or an immediate family member. It doesn't matter if there are other vacant apartments in the building. If he decides he wants the apartment of a long-term tenant, no problem and no obligation to offer the tenant another apartment. The only "protection" is for tenants over the age of 62, who must be offered a comparable apartment at the same rent in the same neighborhood. But, good luck to the tenant who does not know that, or who cannot afford a lawyer.

The landlord also does not have to prove that he actually needs the apartment--he just has to want it, like a spoiled child. All he has to do is claim in "good faith" that he or his family will use it as their primary residence for only three years. After that, it can be de-regulated and re-rented at "whatever the market will bear." Is there any penalty for a landlord who lies? A landlord who evicts a tenant, claiming "good faith," only to rent to a complete stranger the next month? No. The slap on the wrist is that IF the landlord is caught doing it and IF the judge decides to enforce it, the landlord is not allowed to raise the rent on the rent stabilized apartments in the building for three years, if there are any such apartments left. Does the original evicted tenant get his or her apartment back? No.

This, of course, all depends on the evicted tenant hiring a lawyer and taking the landlord to court, which is a prohibitive expense. Landlords count on that fact, so this has been a popular means of eviction. Even a tenant whose landlord evicted her recently because the landlord wanted the apartment for a "sewing room" lost, although the landlord admitted in court that she hadn't sewn anything in years, She just

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AMY SANCHEZ

RENT GUIDELINES BOARD SOAKS NYC TENANTS

By A. Kronstadt

The New York City Rent Guidelines Board (RGB) is a clear-cut example of too much power being concentrated in the hands of too few people. The nine-member board holds several meetings a year, culminating in a final meeting that decides the rent increases that will apply to a million apartments, housing 1.7 million New York City tenants covered by a series of laws intended to preserve affordable housing and keep soaring rents somewhat in check. All nine members of the board are appointed by the Mayor. The board is composed of two tenant representatives, two owner representatives, and five "public" members, most of whom are associated with the real estate industry, not as building owners, but professionals such as lawyers and architects. For many years now, the legislatively-mandated public meetings of the RGB have been lightning rods for tenant activists who shout down board members and chant raucously, in some cases forcing lengthy adjournments. Every year, RGB chairman Marvin Markus has tried a new tactic to bring the surly tenants to heel. In past years, this has included ejecting people as well as ringing the hall with police, and every year, the multitudes have responded with even more determined chanting and disruption.

At the final RGB meeting of 2007, which started on June 26 at 5:45pm, the repressive tactic of the evening was to have everyone entering the Great Hall of the Cooper Union building pass through a metal detector manned by Cooper Union campus cops. A sign was posted threatening to confiscate all objects that could potentially be used as noisemaking devices.

The insult of passing through the metal detector made this crowd ornery enough to disrupt without the whistles and drums, and from the moment that Markus banged his little gavel, the 200 angry tenants did not give him much peace and quiet. Many of the activists were Hispanic residents of the Bronx; a vocal group had come from the Mirabal Sisters Community Center, named for revolutionary heroines of the Dominican Republic.

It was clear that the outcome of the meeting had been orchestrated in advance and that the debate occurring over the shouts of the protesters was merely for show. Tenant representatives Adrian Holder and Ron Languedoc pointed to the record profits that landlords have been making on market rate apartments and proposed an increase of 0%. The landlord representatives, Steven J. Schleier and Magda L. Cruz, introduced a proposal for a high increase in rent (5% for 1-year leases and 9% for 2-year leases). Schleier's never-ending speech on the virtues of small building owners was inaudible, covered by a chorus of "Blah-Blah-Blah" coming from all corners of the Great Hall. All of these proposals were defeated 7-2, with only those who proposed them voting for them.

Tenant representative Adrian Holder then did something rather unusual, trying to split the difference by proposing a 1% increase for 1-year leases and a 2% increase for 2-year leases, contingent upon the building having no more than a certain number of housing code violations. Markus then came back at Holder, claiming that it had already been decided at preliminary RGB meetings that housing code violations were beyond the scope of what the RGB was allowed to consider.

Strangely, the discussion revealed that Markus and Holder were striving to find some kind of common ground in their desire to change the "one size fits all" system that mandates the same rent increases for all buildings and tenants.

Markus then read a long statement, amidst boos and catcalls, in which he advocated reform of the rent regulations in which the income of the tenant would figure in determining the rent increase. In other words, Markus wants to force us all to reveal our incomes to our landlords.

Tenant rep Holder may be playing a risky game by raising the question of code violations and thereby opening the door to Markus' desire to base the system on tenant

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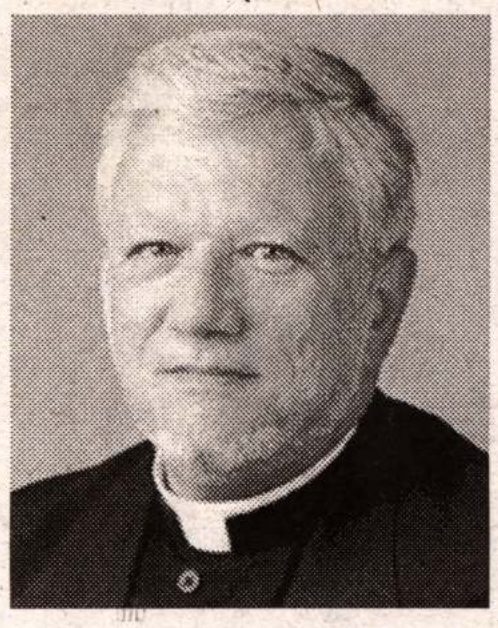
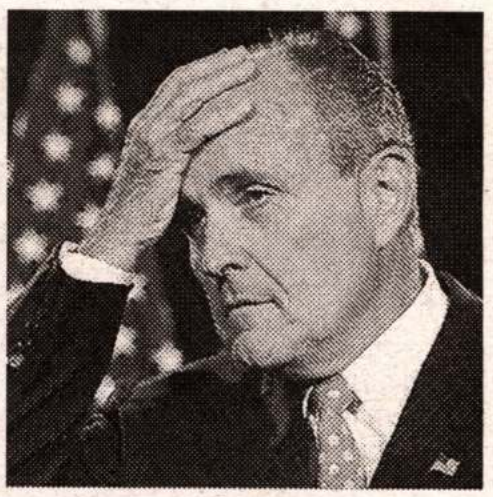


RUDY GIULIANI'S FATHER CONFESSOR: A CHILD MOLESTER?

Catholic Priest, Long-Time Giuliani Friend, Covered Up Dozens of Abuse Cases on Long Island, Accused in Attacks on Students

By A. Kronstadt



A dark cloud is hovering over former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, threatening to dampen his prospects with socially conservative Republican voters as he launches his presidential campaign.

By now, many people have heard or read that Giuliani has been married three times and divorced twice, and some even know that his first wife was also his second cousin. Rudy's second divorce from his second wife Donna Hanover was more a matter for Barnum and Bailey than for the Family Court. As part of the media circus, which lasted though both of his terms in office, Giuliani announced his intention to end their marriage at a press conference in 2002, before he had even informed Ms. Hanover that they were getting divorced.

Toward the end of Rudy's term, when the actual divorce was imminent, Ms. Hanover told television reporters, with their cameras running, that "for several years, it was difficult to participate in Rudy's public life because of his relationship with one staff member." In New York City, that staff member was identified as Giuliani's communications secretary, Cristyne Lategano, with whom Giuliani was continually seen in public during the heyday of his administration. Giuliani eventually dumped Lategano, bestowing upon her a $250,000 a year job as head of the NYC Convention and Visitor's Bureau, as a consolation prize. He then began keeping company with pharmaceutical company executive Judi Nathan, herself a divorcee. Donna Hanover, who was still married to Rudy during this whole period, learned of her estranged hubby's new love upon seeing the two marching side by side down Fifth Avenue during the St. Patrick's Day Parade in 2000. Finally, in 2002, just after leaving office, Giuliani was granted a divorce from Donna Hanover on the grounds of "cruelty," which when invoked by the husband, usually refers to the withholding of sexual services. Hanover had filed a counterclaim requesting a divorce on a more concrete charge of "serial adultery."

Believe it or not, however, this story becomes even more lurid.

Giuliani's own shamefaced attempt to mitigate the potentially bad effect on his political career of his first divorce from his cousin Regina Peruggi, involved yet another unsavory associate of New York City's authoritarian, divisive mayor – sleazy priest/lawyer Alan Placa.

During the 1960s, Placa attended Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School in Brooklyn along with Giuliani. The two young Italian-American go-getters became great friends. Peter Powers, a former NYC deputy mayor whose friendship with both Giuliani and Placa dates back to their days at Loughlin, reminisced about occasions when he accompanied them to the opera and participated in their late-night discussions touching on philosophy and theology. (See: <http://www.bishop-accountability.org/>)

Giuliani and Placa collectively daydreamed about becoming, in Rudy's own words, "professional philosophers, just sitting somewhere, developing ideas and thoughts." Placa, however, decided on the priesthood as his profession, while Giuliani, whose political ambitions crystallized early in life, went on to law school. After his ordination in 1970, Placa also attended law school, and his educational attainments in both the theological and legal realms made him uniquely qualified to serve in later life as a bureaucrat of the Roman Catholic Church.

In 1968, while still a seminarian, Placa was best man at the wedding of Rudolph Giuliani and Regina Peruggi. As Wayne Barrett wrote in *Rudy: An Investigative Biography of Rudolph Giuliani* (Basic Books 2000), Rudy's mother Helen Giuliani, a devout Catholic who approved of her son's friendship with the student priest, consulted with Placa about the second-cousin problem and was informed that the degree of consanguinity was not an obstacle to the marriage under canon law. That information was, however, not accurate. Apparently, there was a form that the couple was supposed to fill out reporting their blood relationship, and the marriage would then have needed a special dispensation from the diocese in order to proceed. The form was not filled out, and the priest officiating at the marriage, Rev. James Moriarty, was not informed that Peruggi and Giuliani were cousins. (See: <http://www.michnews.com/artman/publish/article_15972.shtml>)

In 1982, after almost 14 years of childless marriage, then-U.S. Attorney Rudy Giuliani obtained a legal separation from Peruggi. Giuliani was already living in Washington D.C., sharing living quarters with Donna Hanover. Rudy's new girlfriend, who had previously worked as a broadcast journalist in Pennsylvania and Florida, was then estranged from her husband, Stanley Hanover. Both Giuliani and Ms. Hanover would soon be initiating divorce proceedings from their former spouses in order to clear the way for their own marriage.

At the time, Giuliani was just preparing to enter the political arena and believed that the Catholic vote would be essential to his future success. His divorce, as well as that of Hanover, might prove to be a political stumbling block in the future, as the church refuses to recognize civil divorce and deems divorced people who remarry to be living in sin.

To help him get around this problem of living in sin, Giuliani turned to his old friend, Monsignor Alan Placa, now a high-ranking aide to Bishop John R. McGann of the diocese of Rockville Center, in Long Island. Placa's office was located a few doors away from the diocesan marriage bureau that had the authority to grant nuptial dispensations and annulments. Although the Catholic Church forbids divorce, it has long granted annulments of marriages ruled contrary to canon law -- an annulled marriage is understood by the Church to never have existed in the first place.

Placa interceded on behalf of Giuliani, and his 14-year marriage to Peruggi was declared null and void by the bishop on the grounds that Giuliani and Peruggi had not obtained a special dispensation for their second-cousin marriage in 1968.

The process was highly irregular, but the hermetically-sealed environment of the diocesan headquarters kept the machinations well out of public view. In general, once a marriage has been consummated, the Church will not grant an annulment, but the fact that Giuliani and his wife had no children apparently gave them "plausible deniability." After the divorce and annulment, Ms. Peruggi went on to obtain a Doctorate in Education from Columbia University and has since served as president of Borough of Manhattan Community College and as the director of the Central Park Conservancy.

We already know about Rudy's soap opera relationship with Donna Hanover, but the story of Monsignor Alan Placa in the years following his intercession in the annulment of Giuliani's first marriage is even more notorious.

Placa's formal title at the Archdiocese of Rockville Center was Vice Chancellor and Secretary for Health Affairs, but behind the scenes, he acted as legal council for the Bishop. In that capacity, all cases of alleged sexual abuse by clergy were referred to Placa. When speaking with families of victims, he acted as if he were trying to dispense justice in their cases, but was in fact acting as the bishop's lawyer. In his interviews with the victims of sexual molestation by priests, Placa would steer them into making statements supporting the diocese's case, enabling the offending priests to get off the hook. Placa was a nationally recognized expert on sexual abuse by the Roman Catholic clergy and was personally in charge of diocese policy on abuse. In short, that policy was to badger the victim into backing down or shutting up, or, in some cases, getting abusive priests reassigned to other parishes where they often continued to work with children. (See: <http://www.bishop-accountability.org/news/2002_06_03_Eisenberg_MisconductConcerns_RC.htm> and <http://www.snapnetwork.org/ news/massachusetts/worcester/WORC_Placa_ties.htm>).

In the 1980s, unbeknownst to other high-ranking priests at the Rockville Center diocese, Placa also acted as legal council to the House of Affirmation in Whitinsville, Massachusetts, a treatment center for priests with problems, including those related to sex abuse, where he strove to negotiate settlements with abuse victims in the range of $20,000 to $100,000 each.

In 2002, Placa's decades-long efforts to cover up sexual abuse by the clergy came back to haunt him. In April of that year, he was asked to resign by Bishop William Murphy, who had replaced Bishop McGann, as Suffolk County was convening a grand jury to investigate possible obstruction of justice by officials of the Archdiocese of Rockville Center in regard to clerical sex abuse cases.

During the course of the grand jury proceedings, not only was Placa's role in covering up clerical abuse brought to light, but the grand jury report also identified Placa himself as "Priest F," who, while a teacher at St. Pius X Preparatory Academy in Uniondale during the 1970s, before he became an official of the diocese, accumulated a string of sexual abuse accusations, including one of attacking a teenager and feeling him up while preparing banners for a right-to-life demonstration.

In connection with these accusations, in 2003, Placa was suspended from performing mass and other functions of the priesthood, pending an investigation. Summing up the grand jury report, Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota said that the grand jury could have indicted 23 Long Island priests for sexually abusing children had the right laws been in place at the time.

Placa has denied these allegations and he cannot be criminally charged in any of these incidents because they are alleged to have occurred in the mid-1970s, well past the statute of limitations.

In September, 2002, in the midst of the investigations but apparently before his suspension, Placa was personally engaged by ex-Mayor Giuliani to officiate at the funeral of his mother Helen Giuliani, who had passed away at the age of 92. When asked to comment on the accusations leveled against Placa, Giuliani stated: "Alan Placa is one of the finest people I know. He has helped thousands of people as a priest, as a teacher and as a friend." (See: <http://www.bishop-accountability.org/news/2002-06-15-Janison-FriendsDefend.htm>)

Prosecutors are also interested in the timing of a real estate transaction in which the Reverend Thomas A. Kane, founder of the House of Affirmation, who resigned in 1986 after being charged with embezzling money from his own institution, mysteriously transferred some Florida properties to Alan Placa and to another priest, Monsignor Brendan Riordan of Great Neck, Long Island. The Suffolk County District Attorney's office suspects that this may have been an attempt by Kane to conceal some of the funds stolen from the House of Affirmation. Father Kane, who was involved in a case of molestation that cost the archdiocese of Worcester, Massachusetts $44,000 to settle, was a close friend of Placa and Riordan for many years. Among the long string of misdeeds attributed to Kane, a notorious figure in the scandal-plagued Massachusetts Catholic Church, are that he obtained his job as the head of House of Affirmation by means of a phony Ph.D. and that he used his good offices as a vehicle for procuring boys, some as young as nine, to provide sexual favors to priests including Monsignor Riordan. After Placa was suspended from his job at the Rockville Center diocese, he moved into Riordan's rectory at St. Aloysius Church, in Great Neck.

To handle his own legal problems, Placa called upon Michael D. Hess, ex-corporation council for then-Mayor Giuliani and yet another longtime friend of both Giuliani and Placa. At the time, when he became Placa's lawyer, Hess was a senior managing partner of Giuliani Partners LLC, the "crisis management" company founded by the ex-Mayor in 2002, with several major players in the former Giuliani Administration as its top executives.

In 2003, Giuliani gave his old friend Alan Placa, now all but de-frocked, a job at Giuliani Partners. As of July, 2007, Placa is still employed by Giuliani Partners.

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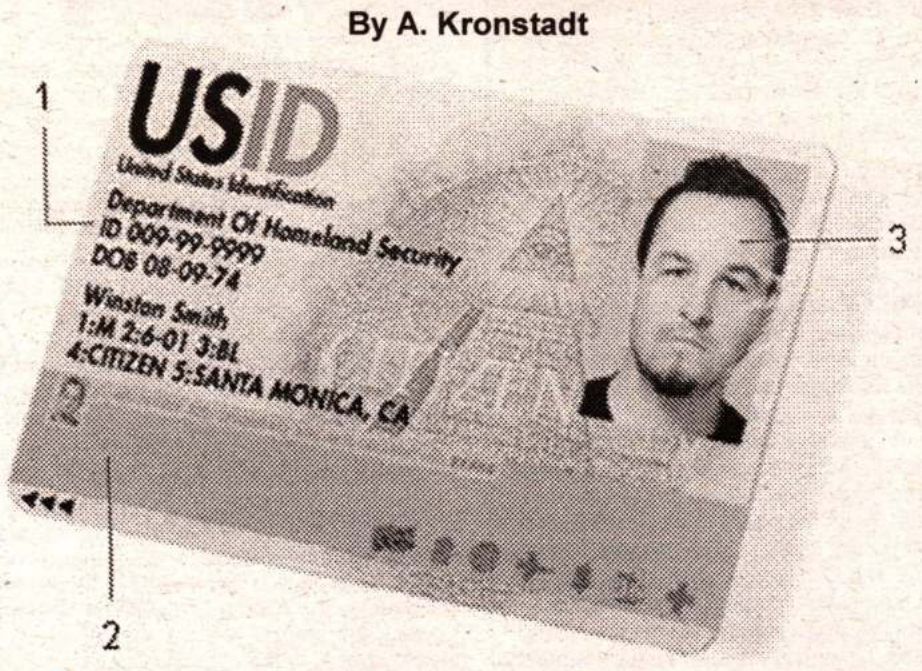
NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD BILL PASSES SENATE WITHOUT DEBATE

STATES OPPOSITION BUILDS

By A. Kronstadt



One of the basic freedom issues that has united both left and right in the struggle against expanding governmental authority has been that of the National ID Card. Many European nations, particularly those with authoritarian histories such as Germany and the ex-communist bloc countries, have long required each citizen to carry some standardized national identification document that must be presented to the police on demand. We are all familiar with the motion picture stereotype of the Nazi or Soviet officer walking up to people and saying "your papers, please," but in the United States, people have traditionally regarded this as something we can all do without. We Americans definitely do not like the idea of needing something like a driver's license just to walk on the street, nor do we want cops asking us for a passport when we are traveling around our own country. Indeed, we are told that the Republicans and conservatives are the ones most vehemently opposed to this ultimate symbol of Big Government.

In the early 1970s, Richard Nixon's administration rejected suggestions that the Social Security card be transformed into a type of national ID card, and in 1981, the Reagan administration described itself as "explicitly opposed" to the introduction of a national identification document. In 1993, Bill Clinton was lambasted for suggesting the introduction of a Health Security Card, and the idea died on the vine.

However, as part of the post-9/11 rush by the Republican-controlled Congress to sacrifice our liberties in the name of security, we are now faced with the introduction of a National ID Card which, though its proponents deny that it is either national or compulsory, will give the government surveillance capabilities that the Nazis and communists in their day could only have dreamed of.

In Issue #50, the SHADOW reported on the Real ID Act, a piece of legislation (HR 418) which had just been adopted by the House of Representatives (February 2005) and passed on to the Senate. The Senate ratified that legislation on May 10, 2005, after a closed-door caucus of Republicans attached the Real ID bill to a military appropriations bill for Iraq and Afghanistan, forcing their more skeptical colleagues to vote for it or "leave our troops in harm's way" by rejecting the military funding. As a result, debate was successfully quashed and the Real ID Act has quietly become a done deal.

The sponsor of HR 418 was Republican Congressman James F. Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin. Heir to the Kotex fortune, Sensenbrenner is one of the House's most consistent right-wing boneheads. Last year, he used his committee chairman's position to block House consideration of a bill to ban dog and cock fighting. Sensenbrenner introduced the U.S.A. PATRIOT Act on the floor of the House on October 3, 2001, stripping Americans of a whole layer of constitutional rights even before the flames of the World Trade Center had been extinguished.

Some of Sensenbrenner's legislative agenda these days seems to have a curious relationship to the fortunes of the Digimarc Corporation [<http://www.digimarc.com>], a specialist in "identity solutions," whose stock has soared as Real ID has wound its way through Congress, and which already has a line of "Real ID Compliance" products.

Sensenbrenner is also the sponsor of the Digital Transition Content Security Act of 2005 (HR 4569) which would require manufacturers of machines for transferring video to digital format to comply with standards for a digital watermark intended to protect video broadcasters from illicit digital recording. The digital watermark technology that would be used, like much of the Real ID compliance technology, is also a product of Digimarc.

Let us sum up the provisions of the Real ID Act:

1. All state-issued driver's licenses and non- driver ID shall include a "biometric parameter," commonly understood to mean fingerprints, from at least two of the identified person's digits. This will result in a dramatic increase in the number of people fingerprinted and in the size of computerized fingerprint databases. Currently, fingerprinting is common in conjunction with arrests, as well as for certain forms of employment, but is not usually required for a driver's license.

2. All of the above-mentioned documents are to include a "common machine-readable technology," understood to mean that the cards will be swipeable like a credit card, and that all of the information encoded on the card would be available to the owner of the card-reading machine. The legislation itself does not specify whether only government agencies or private persons such as bar owners checking the age of patrons would have access to the encoded data, but "common" does imply that the authorities in California would be able to read licenses from New York, so the card-reading machines would have to be pretty generic.

The Department of Homeland Security is pushing for the introduction of RFID chips, also known as "proximity chips," into licenses and ID cards, which enable anyone with the right instrument to read the card while it is still in its owner's pocket. The Digimarc Corporation has already sold systems for "contactless" smart card driver's licenses to North Carolina and other states. Digimarc touts the smart card licenses for their ability to be scanned by border authorities on the Mexican and Canadian side, more or less the way tolls are paid via Easy Pass at bridges and tunnels, from quite a distance.

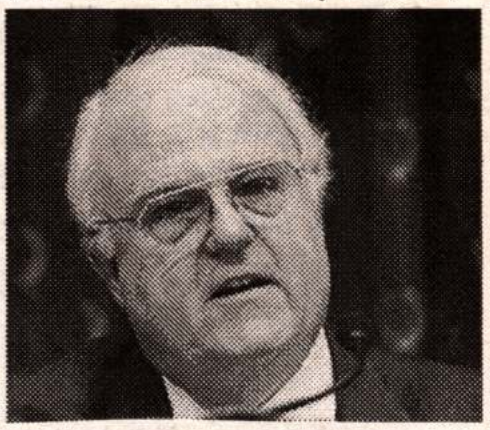
3. In order to obtain a driver's license, a real geographical address will have to be provided, not a post office box. This will essentially bar homeless people (or people whose home is their car) from obtaining licenses.

4. The Real ID Act requires states to link the databases of information on their state-issued IDs into a national database and to share this data with federal law enforcement officials, as well as those from other states, and from Canada and Mexico.

5. Real ID includes several provisions that do not pertain to identification at all, but to immigration policy. One of these deprives state and local authorities of the right to use their own zoning or eminent domain provisions to interfere with the building of the border fence that is intended to hinder illegal immigration. Another allows the Department of Homeland Security to arbitrarily define the meaning of the word "terrorist" when deciding who shall and shall not be allowed to enter the country. This provision will probably be used to restrict the ability of non-citizens opposed to U.S. policies on a whole range of issues to travel in and out of the country, effectively cutting off the free exchange of information on those issues.

The Real ID Act places the onus for many of its provisions upon the states, and for that reason, its proponents deny that it will result in a national identification card. It is true that individual states can opt out of the new standards and continue to issue driver's licenses according to their own rules, but, according to the text of Real ID, these documents will no longer be acceptable as identification for federally-policed activities, such as air travel and entry into government buildings and other facilities.

The idea is to create a de facto National ID Card that everyone will eventually be forced to "voluntarily" accept. One of the things that opponents of Real ID have emphasized is that the states are not only responsible for enforcing Real ID, but for



REP. SENSENBRENNER

financing it as well, and these fingerprint databases and common machine readable technologies do not come cheap. The factors that may eventually scuttle Real ID might just as likely come from the financial end as the political end. [See Citizens Against Government Waste at: <http://www.cagw.org/site/PageServer?pagename=reports_realid">http://www.cagw.org/site/PageServer?pagename=reports_realid>]

Opponents of the Real ID Act point to the fact that expanding the size of the fingerprint database carries with it the danger of increased "false-positive" hits that result from the fact that the more fingerprints stored in the database, the more likely it is that near-duplicate ones will turn up and that innocent people will get caught up in criminal investigations just because they have prints similar to someone else's. This is what happened to Brandon Mayfield, an Oregon lawyer whose prints, on file with the FBI in connection with a minor arrest long ago, showed a putative match with latent prints found at the scene of one of the 2004 Madrid railway bombings. Placed under surveillance and later detained when the Feds discovered that he was a convert to Islam, Mayfield was completely cleared after Spanish authorities detained another sus-

Continued On Page 17

As America's individualistic tradition continues to assert itself, with freedom-loving people from all wavelengths of the political spectrum uniting to defeat the Real ID Act, the Communist rulers of the People's Republic of China are moving full speed ahead to exploit all of the social control possibilities afforded by the latest smart-card technology. Unlike earlier and less successful Communist police states, such as the former German Democratic Republic (East Germany) and the USSR (Soviet Union), where secret police developed their own arcane systems for tracking citizens, China has enlisted the active cooperation of the Western information technology industry, for whom government snooping, Commie or capitalist, just means more money in the bank.

In November 2000, the Chinese government sponsored the Security China 2000 trade show in Beijing, at which a project, code-named "Golden Shield" was unveiled. The goal of Golden Shield, as explained by security officials, was to create a database giving the government immediate access to records on every citizen in China, and linking to vast networks of police cameras and telecommunications surveillance. One of the lynchpins of Golden Shield was to be the introduction of smart cards specifically intended for the purpose of being scanned without the owner's knowledge, from several meters away. Among the 300 companies from 16 nations represented at Security China 2000, Canada's Nortel Networks eagerly jumped into the China security market by initiating a joint project with Tsinghua University on speech recognition technology to be used in the automated surveillance of telephone conversations. Nortel had previously been involved with a similar telephone interception project of the FBI, code-named CALEA.

The 2000 plan for the master database linked to smart cards and cameras is now coming to fruition. For several years already, all Chinese citizens have been required to carry ID cards that indicate name and date of birth. In September 2007, starting in China's heavily-populated southern cities of Shenzhen and Guangdong, residency cards are being issued to all citizens, that include re-programmable RFID chips encoding employment history, housing/landlord information, education, religion, reproductive history (to enforce the one-child policy), and police record. Plans are being made to integrate the ID card with credit cards that will keep track of travel expenses and personal purchases. The link between the smart cards and the cameras lies in the ability to design facial recognition software that can scan a database of digital photographs taken to be displayed on the cards, which are now stored on government computers. All large cities have been ordered to adopt the new system in the coming years, and the new cards are being issued to all citizens who move from one city to another within China.

The software giving the Chinese cops control of this system runs on regular U.S.-distributed hardware, notably supplied by Hewlett-Packard, using regular U.S.-distributed operating systems, especially Microsoft Windows. The specific hardware and software for the cards, the big government database, and the facial recognition capabilities are the product of China Public Security Technology (CPST), a holding company incorporated in Florida with several Chinese subsidiaries. CPST describes its Residence Card Information Management System on their web site [<www.chinapsh.com>] as an "integrated information transfer platform" integrating "social welfare management, education management, and housing rental service management." They state that the system "may be expanded to be compatible with other applications, such as medical, personal credit history, and driving records."

CPST has financed its ID card projects via mainstream U.S. capital, including Oppenheimer & Company, Roth Capital Partners, and the Pinnacle Fund. To these investors, the erosion of personal freedom and privacy is just business -- A.K..

WHOSE HOUSES ARE THESE?

The Battle for Public Housing in New Orleans

By Seth Tobocman (http://worldwar3illustrated.org)

It's almost two years since the streets of New Orleans were flooded by hurricane Katrina. It's almost two years since residents evacuated the city. Almost two years since many who could not escape drowned. The hot streets of New Orleans are now dry. The tourist district is buzzing with activity. There are traffic jams at rush hour. And yet, thousands of New Orleans public housing residents have not been allowed to return home.

Many of New Orleans' housing projects, made of brick and steel, survived the storm better than private houses made of wood. Yet, most of New Orleans' public housing has not been re-opened and many of these buildings are slated for demolition.

"It withstood the rain, the wind," says Sam Jackson, a carpenter and electrician who has lived in the projects for many years "Me, myself, I think it's better. I think it should come back. These are well-structured buildings."

John Fernandez, Associate Professor of Architecture at MIT, has inspected 140 of these apartments and agrees with Mr. Jackson. "No structural or non-structural damage was found that could reasonably warrant any cost-effective building demolition," says Fernandez.

Even so, thousands of apartments are being kept closed, some of them behind metal fences and steel doors, to prevent residents from returning.

Housing project residents were never legally evicted, but once forced out by the disaster, they have been kept out by the authorities. Many of them are stuck in provisional living situations in other cities, such as a massive trailer park in the town of Baker, but some have been able to use emergency housing vouchers to pay for apartments in other parts of New Orleans.

So, if there is no structural problem with the buildings, why can't people come home? Perhaps the government is blocking their return because of a belief popular among neo-liberal urban planners that public housing is obsolete. They claim that New Orleans' low income housing developments were the cause of that city's high crime rate. But the facts belie this hypothesis. Demographer Mark Van Landingham, a professor at Tulane University, estimates that New Orleans' per capita murder rate was higher in 2006 than it had been in 2005.This is in spite of the fact that most of the projects have been closed. So it would seem that the real motivation for closing the projects is one familiar to most New Yorkers: gentrification. That is, social engineering to make New Orleans a richer, whiter city.

Bobby Jennings, a former resident of the C.J. Peete housing development, is now paying her rent with housing vouchers across the river from New Orleans in Algiers. Many would look at her new residence, with its suburban style lawn, and think it was an improvement. But this is not how Jennings feels. "This is not my neighborhood." she says,"I don't know these people here. .... I miss C.J. Peete. I want to go back to C.J. Peete. There's nothing wrong with C.J. Peete."

"I still wanna live in New Orleans because this is my home," says Stephanie Mingo, who, prior to Katrina, lived in the Saint Bernard housing development. "When I was in Texas [where she was sent to live after Hurricane Katrina–Ed.] I had a twelve foot garage, four bedrooms, but I wasn't happy. I was stressin' in that house because I wasn't happy. Not that I can't live somewhere else. If I live in New Orleans, even if I don't live in Saint Bernard, I'm very comfortable. I can go uptown, I know people. I can go downtown, I know people. But if I move out, you gonna have to learn that neighborhood. You don't know one stranger from the next. It would be hard to learn all those people. I wouldn't know which one's a murderer, killer, robber, raper, jacker, but in New Orleans, I know everybody. And when you live like that, you can be comfortable. You can walk out your house one, two, three in the morning. You see a person, you know that person. You don't know that person, you know somebody in their family. And this is where I wanna be, where I wanna raise my family. ...."

Actions taken by former project residents over the last year would lead one to believe that there are a significant number who share such feelings.

In January of 2007, members of MayDay NOLA (www.nola.com), an anarchist housing group, cut through the fences surrounding the Saint Bernard Housing development, and re-occupied the New Day community center, which sits at the heart of the complex of buildings. They had been invited by Endesha Jukali, who holds the lease on the community center and they had the support of Saint Bernard tenants. Throughout the three week occupation, former residents provided food and logistical support to the activists. On weekends, tenants, with the help of volunteers from Common Ground (www.commongroundrelief.org), came in and began repairs on the flood-damaged apartments.

Having no legal grounds on which to stop an insurrection conducted by tenants who still held active leases to their apartments, HUD (the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development) went to federal court seeking an injunction against anyone involved in the occupation. (Public housing in New Orleans is administered by HANO, the Housing Authority of New Orleans, which is under the control of HUD.) The HUD injunction was sought not only against MayDay NOLA, but against Endesha Jukali, her fellow tenants, and even their lawyer. Anyone who crossed through the broken fences. The legal process took weeks.

Meanwhile, the occupation got a lot of positive press coverage. An exhibition of photographs in a local art gallery showed the public that the projects were sturdy and in good shape. Congresswoman Maxine Waters visited Saint Bernard with HUD Director Alphonse Jackson. A video taken by Mayday Nola shows Ms. Waters scolding Mr. Jackson.

After three weeks of continuous occupation by the tenants, heavily armed police raided the Saint Bernard projects in the middle of the night, removing two members of MayDay NOLA at gunpoint and arresting them. The court had not granted HUD the injunction they asked for. The next day, the request was finally rejected. But by this time, work crews had begun demolishing parts of the New Day community center.

Inspired by the actions at Saint Bernard, tenants of the C.J. Peete housing project moved back into their homes in February. This was an action done entirely by residents, with no outside activists involved. This occupation was done openly, with a street fair and a traditional New Orleans brass band. Unfortunately, the units at C.J. Peete no longer had electricity heat or running water, and many of the tenants were seniors in fragile health. HUD threatened to terminate housing vouchers for those involved in the occupation. This would have meant that they would have no place to live but the cold, lightless flats they were occupying. The C.J. Peete tenants decided to end the occupation under this pressure.

But the struggle has continued by other means. Maxine Waters and other members of Congress toured the closed projects in the wake of these protests. According to Bobby Jennings, HANO officials tried to show the Congress members only the most damaged units, but residents interrupted the tour to show them units that were in good shape.

Housing project tenants have since filed a federal civil rights suite against HUD, charging that the closure of public housing is an act of racial discrimination, and the House of Representatives has passed a bill, H.R.1227, which provides assistance to home owners and re-opens public housing in New Orleans.

"Because of the hurricanes, many public housing residents are displaced with no reasonable housing option," said Maxine Waters, "This bill would provide a means to return for the greater of 3,000 or those who respond to the survey who are former New Orleans public housing residents. It also establishes the one-for-one replacement principle by requiring a plan to be approved by HUD and the residents prior to any wholesale demolition or redevelopment efforts of public housing units."

The bill now must pass the Senate. It has the support of many senators, but lacks the crucial endorsement of New Orleans Senator Mary Landeau. She supports the homeowner part of the bill, but not the section relevant to public housing tenants. Members of the public wishing to make known their desire that she support H.R. 1227 can contact Senator Landreau at: 724 Hart Senate Building, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510. (Voice: 202-224-5824, Fax: 202-224-9735, E-mail:http://landrieu.senate.gov/ contact/index.cfm).

New Yorkers might also want to pressure Senator Hillary Clinton to support this bill: Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, 780 Third Avenue, Suite 2601, New York, NY 10017 (Phone: 212-688-6262, Fax: 212-688-7444)

Members of MayDay NOLA say that if the bill fails, they will keep fighting to bring people home anyway.

The struggle in New Orleans is the same struggle we have fought for many years in Lower Manhattan. It is the "Total War For Living Space" in the cities. Cities which are the generators of culture. We should not allow these cities to be entirely under the control of a wealthy elite.

[Seth Tobocman, along with members of the Loisaida New Orleans Caravan, a group of skilled persons from New York's Lower East Side that includes electricians, plumbers and carpenters, have regularly visited New Orleans communities in the Lower 9th Ward and Algiers to help area residents reclaim and rebuild their homes, making them habitable again, in the face of a city policy that encourages poorer residents to leave. Seth filed this report in June of 2007 after visiting New Orleans to help build a float representing the struggles of public housing tenants.]

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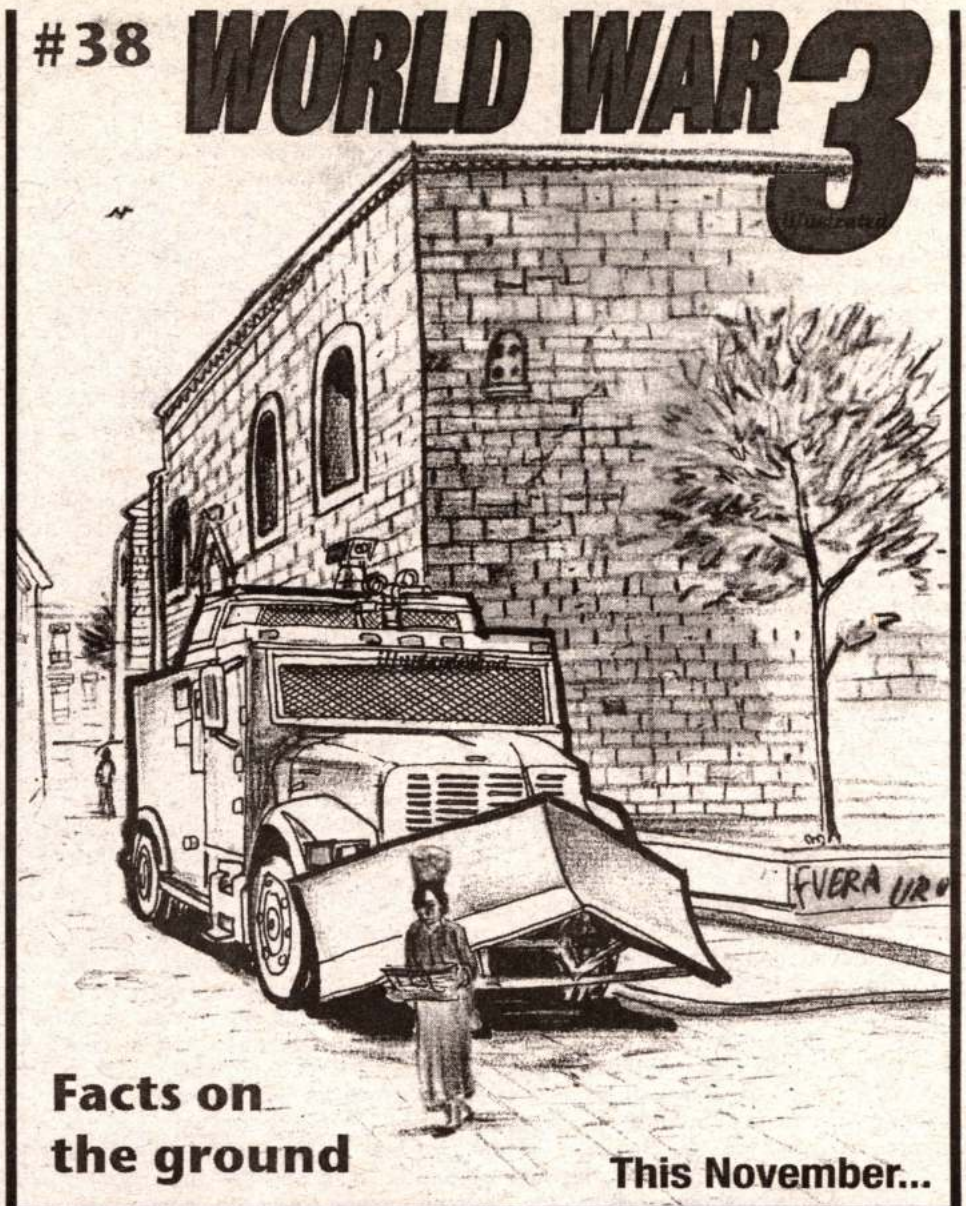
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WORLD WAR 3
Facts on the ground
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First hand accounts from Oaxaca, New Orleans, Jordan and the streets of NYC.
With work by: Peter Kuper, Christopher Cardinale, Seth Tobocman,
Nicole Schulman, Kyle Baker, Rebecca Migdal, Mumia Abu Jamal and many more.

18 Missing Inches in New Orleans

By Greg Palast (http://www.gregpalast.com)

(From the updated expanded paperback edition of the bestseller "Armed Madhouse, From Baghdad to New Orleans: Sordid Secrets and Strange Tales of a White House Gone Wild," by Penguin Books)

Since the initial release of Armed Madhouse in June 2006, much has changed in America.

The Department of Homeland Security, after a five-year hunt for Osama, finally brought charges against... Greg Palast.

As America crawled toward the fifth anniversary of the September 11 attack, Homeland Security charged me and my US producer Matt Pascarella with violating the anti-terror laws.

Don't you feel safer?

And I confess: we're guilty.

On August 22, 2006, we were videotaping Katrina evacuees still held behind barbed wire in a trailer park encampment a hundred miles from New Orleans. It had been a year since the hurricane and 73,000 POW's (Prisoners of Dubya) were still in mobile home Gulags. I arranged a surreptitious visit with Pamela Lewis, one of the unwilling guests of George Bush's Guantanamo on wheels. She told me, "It's a prison set-up" - except there are no home furloughs for these inmates because they no longer have homes.

You can't film there. FEMA is part of Homeland Security and its camps are off limits to cameras. We don't want Osama to know he can get a cramped Airstream by posing as a displaced Black person.

To give a sense of the full flavor and smell of Kamp Katrina, we wanted to show that this human parking lot, with kids and elderly, is close by Exxon Petroleum's Baton Rouge refinery. The neighborhood goes by the quaint sobriquet, "Cancer Alley."

So we filmed it. Uh, oh. The refinery, is a CAVIP, "Critical Asset and Vulnerable Infrastructure Point." Apparently, you can't film a CAVIP.More...

As to the bust: The positive side for me as a reporter was that I got to see Bush's terror-trackers in action. I should note that it took the Maxwell Smarts at Homeland Security a full two weeks to hunt us down. And we're on television.

Frankly, Matt and I were a bit scared that, given the charges, we wouldn't be allowed on a plane into New York for the September 11 commemoration. But what scared us more is that we were allowed on the plane.

Once I was traced, I had a bit of an other-worldly conversation with my would-be captors. Detective Frank Penantano of Homeland Security told me, "This is a 'Critical Infrastructure' â€¦ and they get nervous about unauthorized filming of their property."

Well, me too, Detective. In fact, I'm very nervous that extremely detailed satellite photos of this potential chemical blast-site can be downloaded from maps.google.com.

Detective Penantano, in justifying our impending arrest, said, "If you remember, a lot of people were killed on 9/11."

Yes, I remember "a lot" of people were killed. So I have this suggestion, Detective - and you can pass it on to Mr. Bush: Go find the people who killed them.

18 Missing Inches

Before the Big Bust, we learned a little more about how New Orleans drowned. Given my line of work, I'm not shocked at much. Yet, this one got to me.

"By midnight on Monday the White House knew. Monday night I was at the state Emergency Operations Center and nobody was aware that the levees had breeched. Nobody."

The charges were so devastating - the White House's withholding from the state police the information that the city was about to flood - that from almost any source, I simply would have dismissed it. But this was not just any source. The whistleblower was Dr. Ivor van Heerden, deputy chief of the Louisiana State University Hurricane Studies Center, and the chief technician advising the state on saving lives during Katrina.

That Monday night, August 29, 2005, the sleepless crew at the state Emergency Operations Center, directing the response to Hurricane Katrina, were high-fiving it, relieved that Katrina had swung east of New Orleans, sparing the city from drowning.

They were wrong. The Army Corps, FEMA and White House knew for critical hours that the levees had begun to crack, but withheld the information for a day and night. The delay was deadly.

Van Heerden explained that levees don't collapse in a single bang. First, there's a small crack or two, a few feet wide, which take hours to burst open into visible floodways.

Had the state known New Orleans' bulwark was failing, they would have shifted resources to get out those left in the danger zone.

Van Heerden: FEMA knew on 11 o'clock on Monday that the levees had breeched. At 2pm, they flew over the 17th Street Canal and took video of the breech.

Question: So the White House wouldn't tell you that the levees had breeched?

Van Heerden: They didn't tell anybody.

Question: And you're at the Emergency Center?

Van Heerden: I mean nobody knew. Well, the Corps of Engineers knew. FEMA knew. None of us knew.

The prevarications continued all week.

Van Heerden said, "I went to the Governor's on Tuesday night and I said this, 'There's a lot more breeches than one.' They said, "Whatever you need, go find out. I got in an airplane, I flew. I counted 28 breeches."

The White House had good reason, or at least political and financial reasons, to keep mum. A hurricane is an act of God, but catastrophic levee failure is an act of the Administration. Once the federal levees go, evacuation, rescue and those frightening words - responsibility and compensation - become Washington's. Van Heerden knew that "not an act of God, but catastrophic failure of the levee system" would mean that, at least, "these people must be compensated."

Not every flood victim in America gets the Katrina treatment. In 1992, storms wiped out 190 houses on the beach at West Hampton Dunes, home to film stars and celebrity speculators. The federal government paid to completely rebuild the houses, which, hauled in four million cubic feet of sand to restore the tony beaches, and guaranteed the home's safety into the coming decades - after which the "victim's" homes rose in value to an average $2 million each.

But in New Orleans, instead of compensation, 73,000 have been sentenced to life in FEMA's trailer-parks in Louisiana. Even more are displaced to other states. I asked van Heeerden about the consequences of the White House's failures, the information about the levee being just one of a list.

"Well, fifteen hundred people drowned. That's the bottom line."

But why did the levees fail at all if the hurricane missed the city? The professor showed me a computer model indicating the levees were a foot and a half too short - the result of a technical error in the Army Corp of Engineer's calculation of sea level when the levees were built beginning in the 1930s.

And the Bush crew knew it. Long before Katrina struck, the White House staff had sought van Heerden's advice on coastal safety. So when the professor learned of the 18-inch error, he informed the White House directly. But this was advice they didn't want to hear. The President had already sent the levee repair crew, the Army Corp of Engineers, to Afghanistan and Iraq.

* * * \

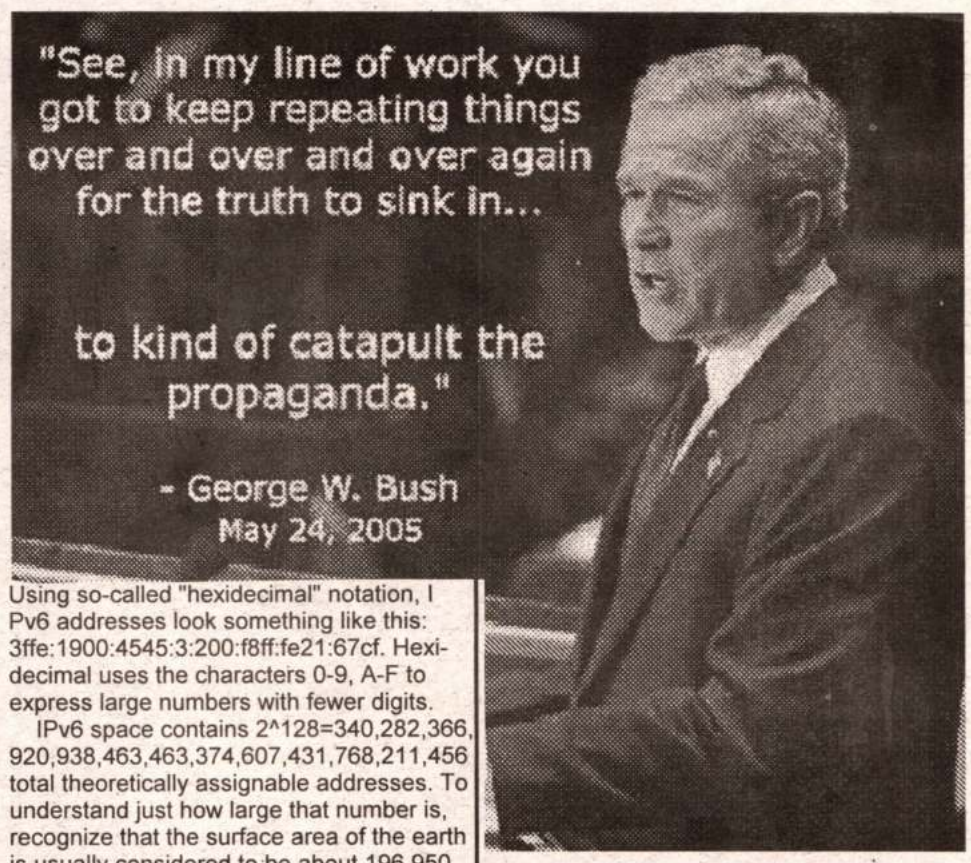
TACTICAL MEDIA

Big Brother Is In Your Pocket – But Wait! Big Brother IS Your Shirt!

New Technology, New Means of Tracking and Surveillance are Upon Us

By Paul Garrin

"All truth passes through three stages: First, it is ridiculed; Second, it is violently opposed; and Third, it is accepted as self-evident"--Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860)


"See, in my line of work you got to keep repeating things over and over and over again for the truth to sink in...
to kind of catapult the propaganda."
- George W. Bush
May 24, 2005

Just made a call on your cell phone? Maybe it's just in your pocket, quietly chit chatting with the network, sending its Global Positioning System (GPS) location back to your account database where all your movements can be recorded and tracked. A cell phone constantly communicates with the nearest "cell" (a short range radio transmitter) which connects your phone over the air to the phone network. It's never really off unless the battery is removed and all power discharged. Cell phones are the least anonymous and potentially most invasive " self-enabled" surveillance method that unwitting and unsuspecting happy consumers embrace and rely upon. There is no anonymity nor privacy with these tiny "Big Brothers" in our pockets. Cell phones may even be used to conduct realtime audio and video surveillance, controlled surreptitiously over the network unbeknownst to the phoner.

Just used your credit card to make a purchase online or in a shop? Every time you use your cell phone, execute a credit card transaction, use the internet, each and every step are tracked and recorded.

This is not news to most, but what may be over the horizon, beyond "warrantless wiretapping," "black bag jobs," "data mining," and "private sector cooperation" looms a more insidious and threatening form of surveillance that could literally immerse us in the not so distant future. This new wave that brings us a new twist to the digital panopticon comes at the dawn of the transition from analog to digital broadcasting on February 19, 2009. On that date, analog over the air television broadcasts will have faded into history as the age of digital broadcasting takes form. TV as we've known it will be a thing of the past as the "digital convergence" culminates into full reality.

One topic at issue is what will happen to the 700 megaHertz (700 mHz) band of electromagnetic spectrum that till February 19, 2009 is carrying analog UHF TV channels 60 through 69 that we, up till that date, have been able to tune in on our television sets. Before the transition to digital in 2009, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will auction off parts of the electromagnetic spectrum that have historically carried some of our familiar analog TV and radio stations.

The 700 mHz band is a hot property and up for grabs to the highest multi-billion dollar bidder. Several large companies like AT&T and Google, among others, have their eyes on acquiring the 700 mHz spectrum and are prepared to spend whatever it takes to gain control of it. Who gets it and what they do with it will have an indelible impact on whether anyone who lives in our society will ever have any chance of privacy or anonymity in any form.

The 700 mHz spectrum is extremely valuable for digital use because of its excellent signal propagation properties, especially when applied to broadband wireless computer networks, similar to what we know today as WiFi. In the analog days of broadcasting, we became accustomed to being able to tune our TVs and radios just about anywhere, in our homes or outdoors, and elsewhere.

That's because the airwaves that carried the analog TV and radio signals could easily pass through buildings and walls, making it easier to reach large numbers of people with a minimum amount of transmission equipment. Cell phone and WiFi computer networks transmit on a higher frequency, in the microwave range, which works best with an unobstructed line-of-sight. Cell phone and WiFi connections get degraded as the path between the transmitter and the receiver becomes obstructed, as the higher frequency energy is absorbed or reflected by the objects in its path.

Lower frequencies, as in the 700 mHz band, pass more easily through obstructions and therefore work well in non line-of-sight conditions. When applied to digital wireless networks, the 700 mHz band becomes extremely powerful in that it enables the construction of large scale digital networks with less equipment than is required for higher frequency devices as used in present cell phone and WiFi computer networks. In short, 700 mHz signals attain better coverage and quality than existing cell phone and WiFi networks can.

On the surface, this sounds like a good thing. In fact, for some time, the 700 mHz band was explored to carry emergency services, police, fire, and government communications. In light of the failure of the digital radios that sputtered during 9/11, contributing to the deaths of many firefighters, the 700 mHz band for emergency use became an attractive solution. Because there were no repeaters inside the World Trade Center during the disaster, radio dispatches and communications were spotty or unavailable because the digital radios operated at frequencies that did not penetrate the walls and floors of the structures. Without indoor repeater transmitters connected to outdoor antennas, the signals could not reach the firefighters inside, and caused them to be tragically cut off from vital communications.

The excellent signal propagation properties of the 700 mHz band overcome the limitations of higher frequency devices. In that respect, it's a very good thing that part of the FCC's rules for use of 700 mHz require that in exchange for commercial use of the spectrum, the licensee must also build out and support the infrastructure for emergency and public safety communications. Where our freedom and privacy are at stake depends on the form that the consumer technology that operates over 700 mHz wireless takes.

The most likely application for 700 mHz is as a medium to carry digital broadband Internet Protocol (IP) based services that includes digital data, video, voice, at a very high speed, what some are calling "Internet II". Internet II uses a different numbering system to refer to devices attached to the network, called Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6). The internet that we've all become accustomed to has a relatively finite number of possible IP addresses. Under the present Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4) addresses take the "dotted quad" format many may recognize, i.e. 192.168.11.0 that defines a 32 bit address. In IPv4, the total number of possible addresses is less than the total of 255*255*255*255 (4,228,250,625), since some of the space is reserved for special purposes. At the current rate of growth of internet users, IPv4 space will be exhausted in the near future. In contrast, the IPv6 address space is magnitudes larger than IPv4, with its 128 bit address. Using so-called "hexidecimal" notation, IPv6 addresses look something like this: 3ffe:1900:4545:3:200:f8ff:fe21:67cf. Hexidecimal uses the characters 0-9, A-F to express large numbers with fewer digits.

IPv6 space contains 2^128=340,282,366,920,938,463,463,374,607,431,768,211,456 total theoretically assignable addresses. To understand just how large that number is, recognize that the surface area of the earth is usually considered to be about 196,950,000 square miles.There are 5280*5280 square feet in a square mile, and 12*12 square inches in a square foot. Multiplying 196,950,000*5280*5280*12*12, we find that the approximate surface area of the earth is 790,653,726,720,000,000 square inches.

If you divide 340,282,366,920,938,463,463,374,607,431,768,211,456 (the upper bound on the number of IPv6 addresses) by 790,653,726,720,000,000 (the approximate surface area of the earth in square inches) that implies you can assign over 3.7x10**21 addresses per square inch of the earth's surface! [Source: <http://cc.uoregon.edu/cnews/spring2001/whatsipv6.html>]

Now, with that many addresses possible, combined with smaller and smaller microprocessors (MIT has developed a paint-on parallel computer) it is conceivable that every product we buy, even every button on our shirts, could have a unique address and be active on a wireless network, especially a very pervasive one made possible using 700 mHz as a carrier. The very fabric the clothes on your back are made from could have a unique ID that is always recognized by the network, and could track literally your every move. Connecting the device back to its owner starts at the moment it is purchased using a credit card --besides the transaction that links the purchase to your name is also the cash register transaction if you purchase from a physical shop, correlated with the surveillance video time-stamped in sync with your credit card purchase. All this fed into the "Total Information Awareness" database culminates in the total disintegration of any possibility for "Fourth Amendment Rights" once this invisible, marketed as helpful and benign, technology takes root and is embraced by all.

What can we do?

Call for an END to the AUCTION of 700 mHz spectrum. Release the 700 mHz spectrum entirely for unlicensed use by private citizens. Now, this is not something that the U.S. Government will do without some convincing -- but in the long view, more funds can be raised creatively through other means than by a one-shot auction. The positive economic impact and the degree of innovation and invention that will result from free and open use of 700 mHz will outstrip the benefits of creating a monopoly by auctioning off the spectrum to a single (even if it's only a regional) licensee. Otherwise, whomever owns the 700 mHz license in your area will have a monopoly on delivering high speed wireless broadband and will own and control the equipment at the point of connection to the network.

Why this matters is that surveillance begins at the point a so-called "initiating device" connects to the network. In the case of WiFi hotspots for example, anyone can own and operate a WiFi access point because it operates in a piece of spectrum set aside by the 1996 Telecom Act for unlicensed industrial, scientific, and medical use (ISM) in the 2.4 gigaHertz (2.4 gHz) microwave band. Because the owner of a WiFi access point can mask the hardware identifiers of computers connected to it from the outside world, it is very difficult to trace an initiating device back from the server that it connected to. If a monopoly exists whereby all the devices operating on 700 mHz are owned only by a corporate entity, there is no assurance that knowledge of the unique identity of user hardware will be protected and not disclosed without due process, nor recorded and stored potentially to track and surveil individuals.

While the potential is great that everything you've ever seen that has a barcode on it could become a uniquely identified object with a continuous, live audit trail from the point of manufacture to the real time position, and even condition of the milk carton, hat, glasses, shoes, shampoo, computer, cell phone, you name it, there remain some areas where our consumer awareness and good habits can help reduce the adverse effects of the digital panopticon and the corporate-government abuses of our privacy and freedom.

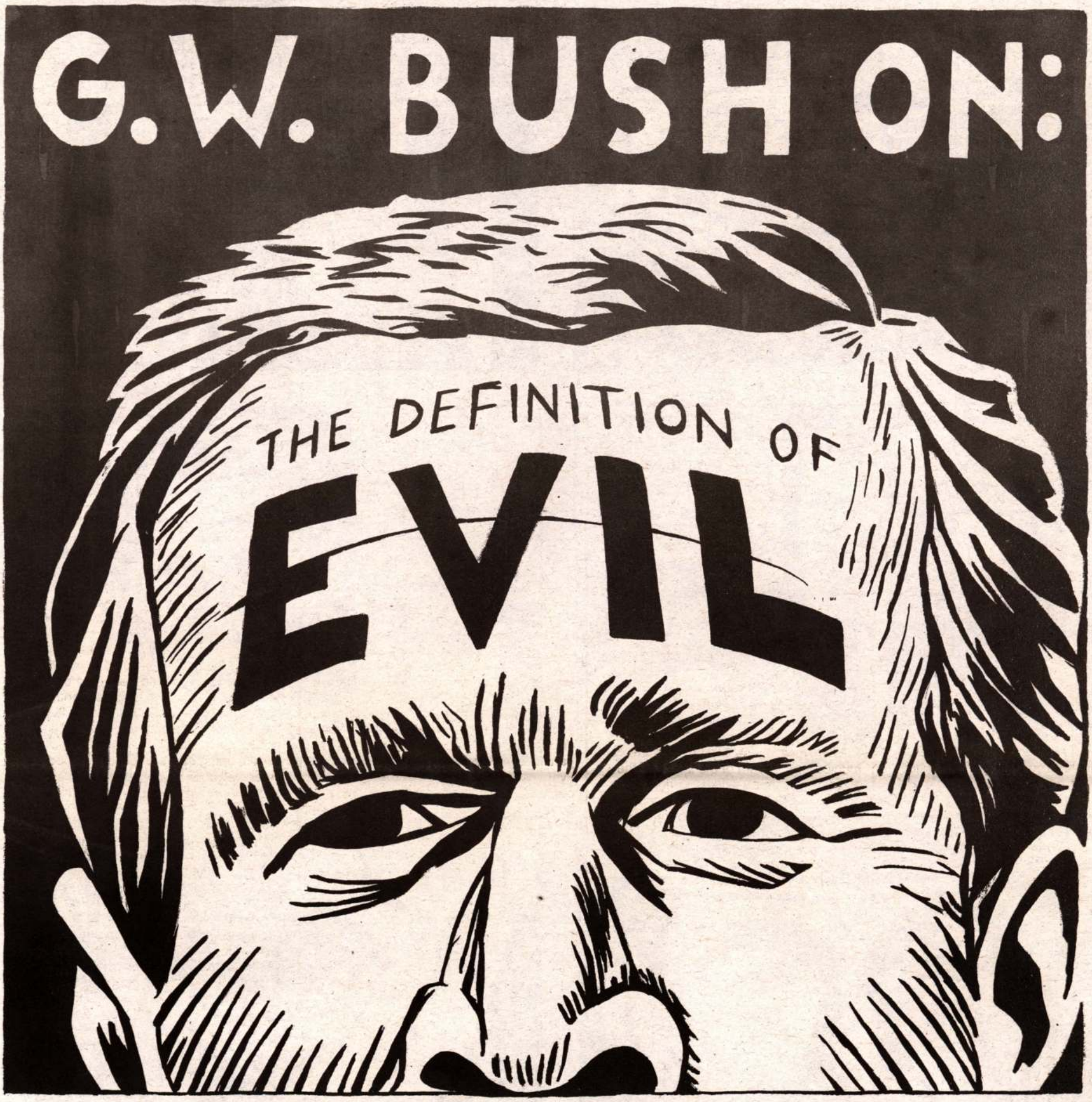
First, do not buy anything you know or suspect to have any "smart" features built in to them. Buy fair trade and organic goods, as much as possible, as they are unlikely to be "embedded" with any tracking technology.

Use whatever unlicensed spectrum is available to build local networks that are locally owned and controlled. Unlicensed spectrum is actually abundant and more is becoming available in the future. WiFi (2.4 gHz) WiMax (5.x gHz) are in a sense the "Citizens Band of the Internet" because nodes can be owned and operated by individuals for free without any license nor fees, governed by the FCC's Part 15 rules (the device can't cause harmful interference...). Other unlicensed spectrum in the 60-70 gHz range can be freely used to construct over the air network connections that rival the speed of fiber optic lines.

Combining backbone and client delivery methods using all available unlicensed spectrum is key to maintaining a buffer between the corporate-spook-government-controlled network space and our individual freedom to communicate and research privately and in peace.

Although the corporations who support and participate in the psy-ops for endless warfare own and control most of the media we all use and are subjected to every day, it is possible to carve out an oasis here and there, and even better, by forming economic blocks that invest in alternative media infrastructure that in the end serves and benefits its stakeholders and the greater good without continuing to feed the corporate beast that violates and consumes us. Drain the corporate swamp by building alternatives, don't let the corporations drain your wallet!

Be smart, be aware, and don't give Big Brother a helping hand, your money, nor the value of your work...and certainly don't give Big Brother the shirt on your back!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OR
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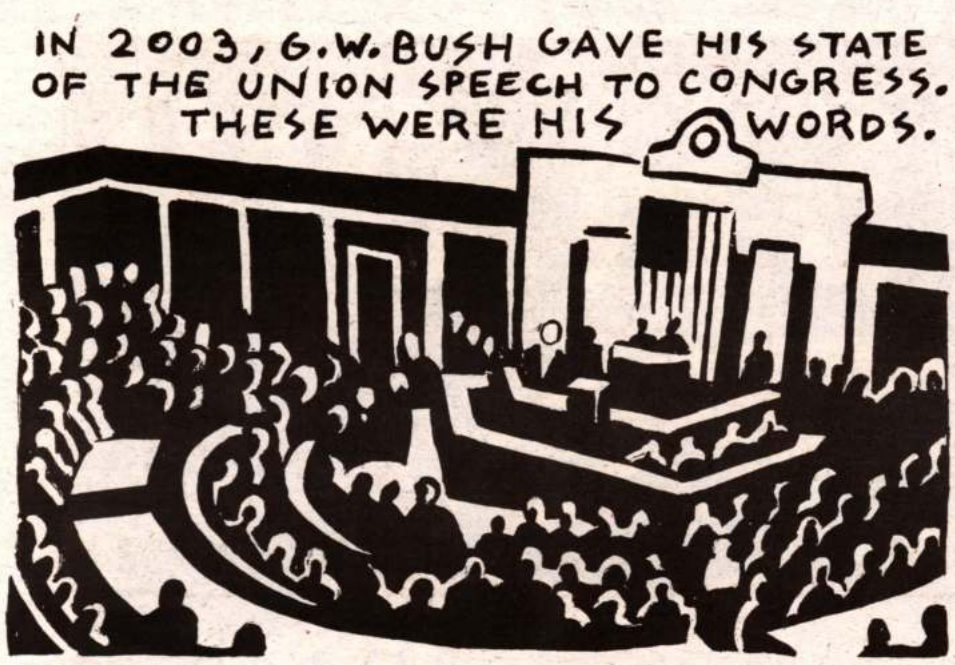
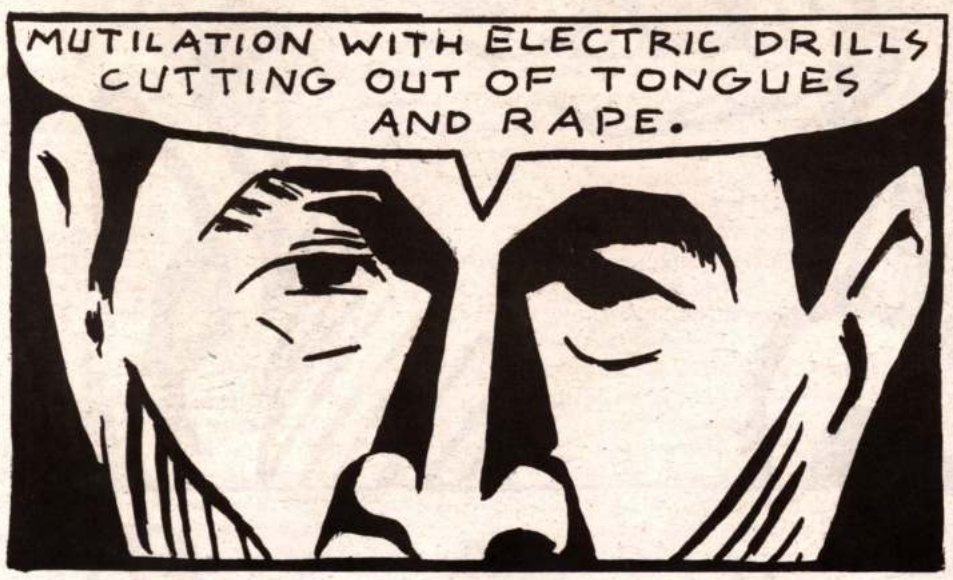

IN 2003, G.W. BUSH GAVE HIS STATE OF THE UNION SPEECH TO CONGRESS. THESE WERE HIS WORDS.

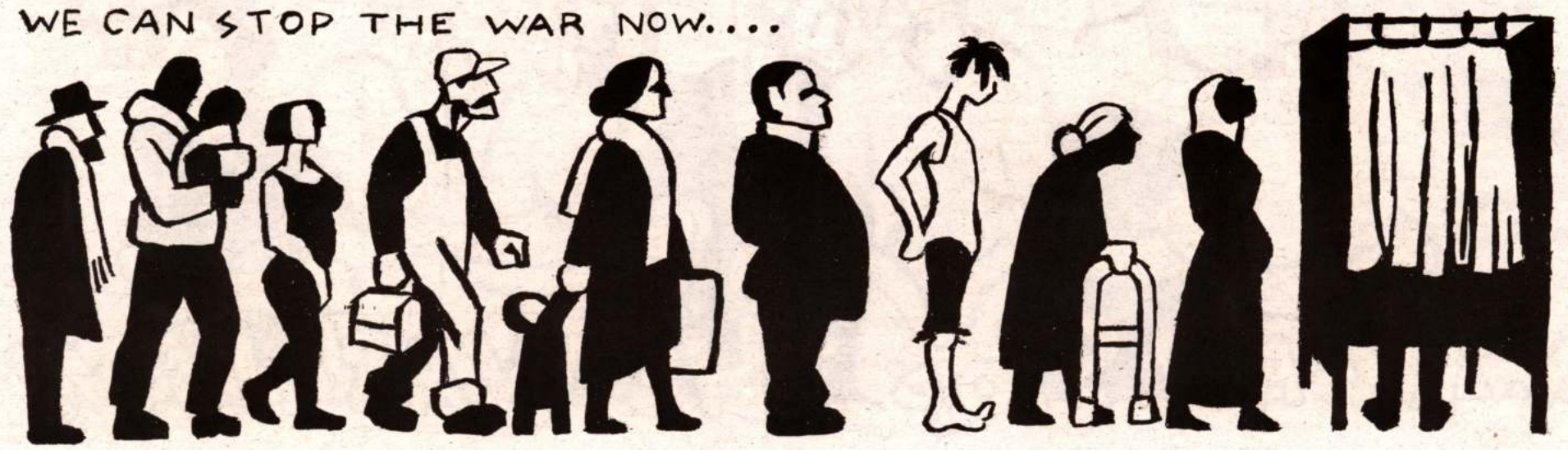
IRAQI REFUGEES TELL US HOW FORCED CONFESSIONS ARE OBTAINED BY TORTURING CHILDREN WHILE THEIR PARENTS ARE FORCED TO WATCH.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS HAVE CATALOGUED
OTHER METHODS USED IN THE TORTURE CHAMBERS OF IRAQ,

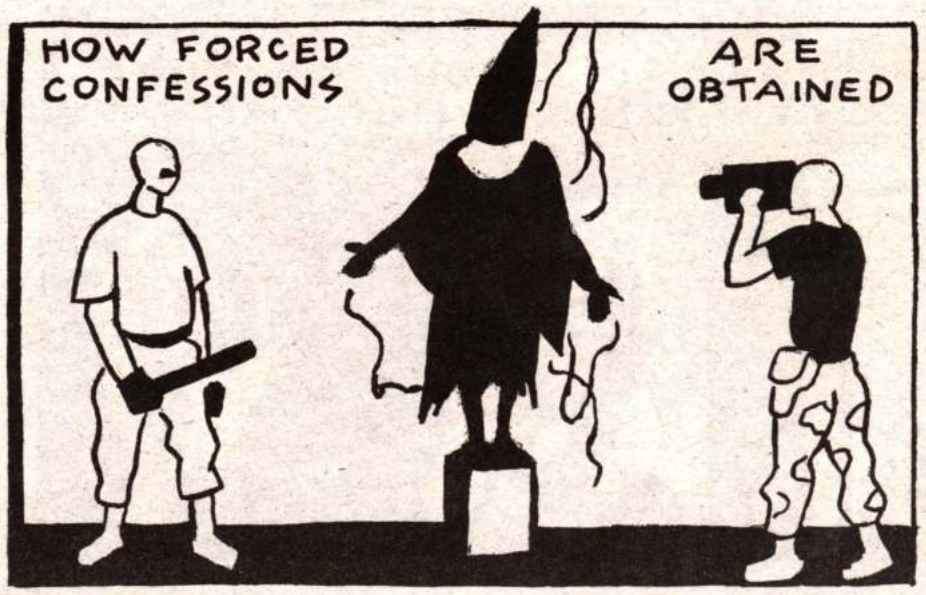
ELECTRIC SHOCK, BURNING WITH HOT IRONS, DRIPPING ACID ON THE SKIN,


MUTILATION WITH ELECTRIC DRILLS CUTTING OUT OF TONGUES AND RAPE.

IF THIS IS NOT EVIL,
THEN EVIL HAS NO MEANING


WE CAN STOP THE WAR NOW....

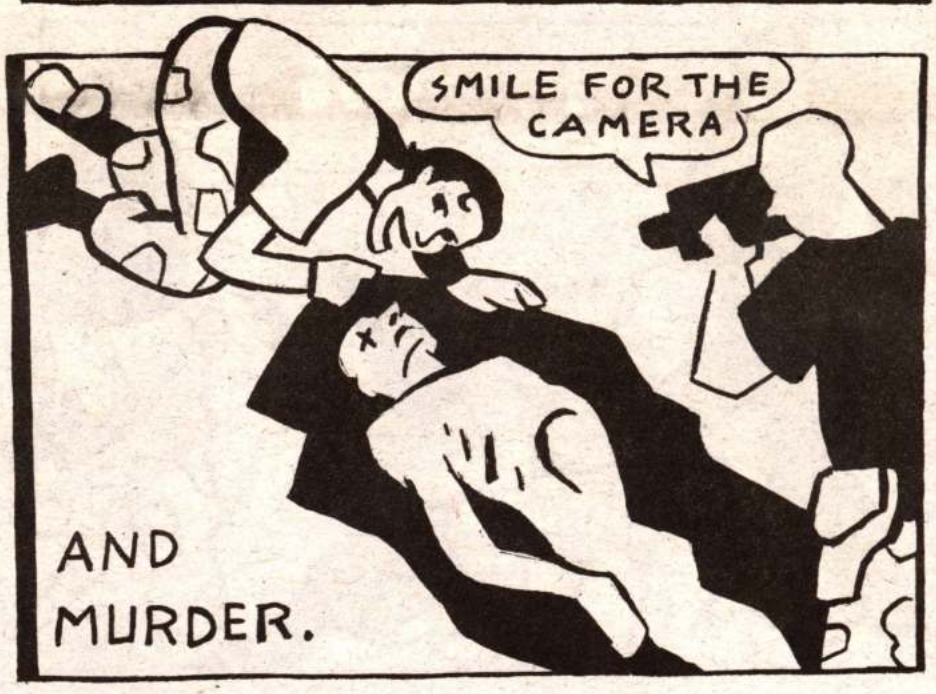
PHOTOS TAKEN BY AMERICAN G.I.S IN IRAQ SHOW US
PERFECT.

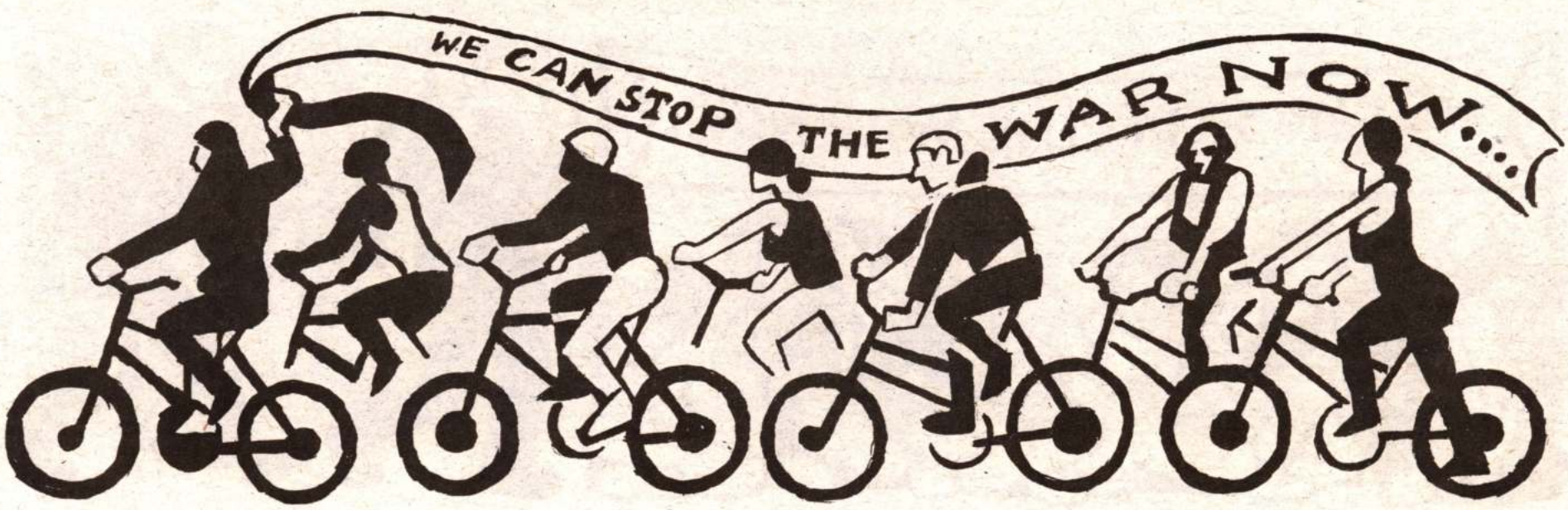

HOW FORCED CONFESSIONS
ARE OBTAINED

BY IMPRISONING CHILDREN ALONG WITH THEIR PARENTS.

BY TERRORIZING PEOPLE WITH ATTACK DOGS.

AND RAPE


SMILE FOR THE CAMERA
AND MURDER.


WE CAN STOP THE WAR NOW...!

FOR TOO LONG OUR CULTURE HAS SAID....

IF IT FEELS GOOD, DO IT!

NOW AMERICA IS EMBRACING A NEW ETHIC, A NEW CREED,

LET'S ROLL!

LET'S ROLL!

LET'S ROLL!

WE CAN STOP THE WAR NOW.

IF THIS IS NOT EVIL,

THEN EVIL HAS NO MEANING!

Story & Art: S. Tobocman INKS: J. Wheeler

ON SEPTEMBER 25th 2007, THE EYES OF THE WORLD WILL BE ON THE
MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS GEN-ERAL ASSEMBLY.
GEORGE BUSH GOES TO THAT MEETING TO LIE,
TO PROVOKE HOSTILITY AND BLOODSHED.
WE MUST SHOW THE WORLD THAT GEORGE BUSH DOES NOT SPEAK FOR THE PEOPLE
OF THE UNITED STATES.
ON SEPTEMBER 25TH AMERICANS WILL CALL FOR THE ARREST OF GEORGE W. BUSH FOR CRIMES AGAINST U.S. AND INTER-NATIONAL LAW.

CONTACT: STOPBUSHSEPT25.ORG

NATIONAL ID CARD Continued....

pect whose fingerprints matched the latent prints more closely than Mayfield's.

Most regular people in the U.S. realize that what little freedom we have left here results not from the government respecting our constitutional rights, but from anonymity and simply not being observed. Freedom is a zero-sum game -- our freedom exists in the pores of the beast, and any increase in the government's abilities to observe and detect our activities is at the people's expense.

Although the pretext for the Real ID Act was the events of September 11, 2001 and the "War on Terrorism," the alleged September 11 suicide pilots were in the U.S. legally and Mohammed Atta's student visa was mailed by the State Department to the flight school where Atta was enrolled on September 13, 2001, days after the WTC attack in which he is said to have perished.

There is no proof that enhanced ID card technology will prevent terrorism, though there is ample reason to suspect that it will expose many citizens to identity theft when a person's entire identity, right down to fingerprints, are stored on a single card and digitized on a single black magnetic strip or perhaps one of Digimarc's "contactless" smart chips that can be read from yards away.

The concept of a standardized document that everyone must present when boarding an airplane, applying for federal jobs or funding or anything else that requires American citizenship, is part of a post-9/11 mentality that is supposed to displace traditional American notions of freedom of movement and privacy. However, these notions are dying hard and, since we last reported on the issue, a whirlwind of opposition has developed to the Real ID Act, primarily on the state level.

Since the Real ID Act is a done deal on the federal level, much of the activism against HR 418 focuses on impeding the implementation of Real ID on the state level since it would be a multi-billion dollar *boondoggle* for the states.

As of this writing, the legislatures of 16 states have passed laws and resolutions condemning Real ID, or, in some cases, flatly opting out of it. The language of these bills straddles and in some cases transcends traditional left/right or liberal/conservative boundaries. Utah passed a bill in February 2007, denouncing the Real ID Act on the grounds of "individual liberties, free markets, and limited government." Montana, another western, conservative state, has enacted legislation rejecting participation in Real ID.

On June 27, 2007, the New Hampshire State Legislature enacted a law that includes the wording "...New Hampshire shall not participate in any driver's license program pursuant to the Real ID Act of 2005 or in any national identification card system that may follow from the Real ID Act." As justification, the legislature ruled that Real ID violates the New Hampshire state constitution and Amendments 4 through 10 of the U.S. Constitution. On that same day, the South Carolina legislature passed a similar bill, prohibiting the state from participating in the implementation of Real ID.

These states join Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Tennessee, and Washington in enacting laws distancing themselves from the provisions of the Real ID Act. Such a law is also pending in the Massachusetts legislature.

Some other states, however, have made significant efforts to comply with Real ID. Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has given honorable mention to California, Alabama, and North Carolina for their zealous attempts to meet the new requirements.

As of March 1, 2007, the Federal Government had allocated only 50 million dollars to help states with the implementation of Real ID. It is estimated that putting into effect the provisions of the Real ID Act will cost the states 11 billion dollars over a 5-year period [See: <http://www.ncsl.org/realid/>] In many respects, state opposition to Real ID is as much motivated by bottom line considerations as by a concern about civil liberties.

There are presently bills pending in the House and Senate, each now with a tenuous Democratic majority, to repeal the Real ID Act. An amendment to the bill eliminating the requirement that employers demand a Real ID-mandated identification card from all new hires was passed by the Senate in June.

On March 1, the Department of Homeland Security announced that the deadline for states to comply with Real ID, originally set for the beginning of 2008, would be extended by two years, to December 31, 2009. Perhaps the mounting opposition is beginning to register. In any event, all of us who fear living in a world where any tin horn bureaucrat may ask for "your papers please" should continue to apply pressure to their state and federal legislators.

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IN ORDER TO READ THE REAL ID ACT (HR 418):
<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c109:H.R.418:>

* * * * *

FOR AN OVERVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF THE REAL ID ACT (HR 418):
<http://www.cause7.com/admin/upload/Real ID Act LAO.pdf>
<http://www.cause7.com/admin/upload/LAOAnalysis of Federal Real ID Act.doc>

* * * * *

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ANTI-REAL ID ACT ACTIVISM:
<http://www.unrealid.com/>
<http://www.schneier.com/blog/archives/2005/05/real_id.html>
<http://www.realidrebellion.com/>
<http://www.house.gov/judiciary democrats/realidact.html>

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[EDITOR'S NOTE: Your response to this latest threat on our civil liberties can range from raising awareness about what a national identification card really means (using web sites and other alternative media, letters to mainstream media, leafleting, stickers, graffiti, tabling, demonstrations, etc.) to encouraging non-compliance and boycotting of the National ID Card program and any institutions or businesses (banks, airlines, etc) participating in it, to putting pressure on locally-elected officials to pass resolutions and laws against the card and on Senators and Congress members to rescind HR418.

Whatever approach(es) you choose, let them know that you are NOT going to participate in this program, and let everyone you come into contact with know that the National ID Card can take effect only if we go along with it -- and we do NOT have to!! In other words, they only have as much power over us as we ALLOW them to have -- there are still more of US than there are of THEM!!!! Most importantly, use your imagination to accomplish the desired result!!]

MARTIAL LAW Continued....

visited their communities gives the orders."

A few weeks later, on September 29, Leahy entered into the Congressional Record that he had "grave reservations about certain provisions of the fiscal Year 2007 Defense Authorization Bill Conference Report," the language of which, he said, "subverts solid, long standing posse comitatus statutes that limit the military's involvement in law enforcement, thereby making it easier for the President to declare martial law." This had been "slipped in," Leahy said, "as a rider with little study," while "other congressional committees with jurisdiction over these matters had no chance to comment, let alone hold hearings on, these proposals."

In a telling bit of understatement, the Senator from Vermont noted that "the implications of changing the (Posse Comitatus) Act are enormous." "There is good reason," he said, "for the constructive friction in existing law when it comes to martial law declarations. Using the military for law enforcement goes against one of the founding tenets of our democracy. We fail our Constitution, neglecting the rights of the States, when we make it easier for the President to declare martial law and trample on local and state sovereignty."

Senator Leahy's final ruminations: "Since hearing word a couple of weeks ago that this outcome was likely, I have wondered how Congress could have gotten to this point. It seems the changes to the Insurrection Act have survived the Conference because the Pentagon and the White House want it."

The historic and ominous re-writing of the Insurrection Act, accomplished in the dead of night, which gives Bush the legal authority to declare martial law, is now an accomplished fact.

The Pentagon, as one might expect, plays an even more direct role in martial law operations. Title XIV of the new law, entitled, "Homeland Defense Technology Transfer Legislative Provisions," authorizes "the Secretary of Defense to create a Homeland Defense Technology Transfer Consortium to improve the effectiveness of the Department of Defense (DOD) processes for identifying and deploying relevant DOD technology to federal, State, and local first responders."

In other words, the law facilitates the "transfer" of the newest in so-called "crowd control" technology and other weaponry designed to suppress dissent from the Pentagon to local militarized police units. The new law builds on and further codifies earlier "technology transfer" agreements, specifically the 1995 DOD-Justice Department memorandum of agreement achieved back during the Clinton-Reno regime.(4)

On April 24, 2007, Major General Timothy Lowenberg, the Adjutant General, Washington National Guard, and Director of the Washington Military Department, testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on "The Insurrection Act Rider and State Control of the National Guard." He was speaking in opposition to Section 1076 of the recently passed 2007 **National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)**, which President Bush quietly signed into law in October, 2006.

This move towards martial-military law, which is intended to facilitate more effective counterinsurgency measures on the home front, took place, according to Lowenberg, "without any hearing or consultation with the governors and without any articulation or justification of need." This, despite the fact that Section 1076 of the new law" changed more than 100 years of well-established and carefully balanced state-federal and civil-military relationships." In other words, with one swipe of the pen, says the General, "one hundred years of law and policy were changed without any publicly or privately acknowledged author or proponent of the change."

Its "Federal Plans for Implementing Expanded Martial Law Authority," are to be executed via the recently created domestic military command, the Northern Command or NORTHCOM. "One key USNORTHCOM planning assumption," said Lowenberg, "is that the President will invoke the new Martial Law powers if he concludes state and/or local authorities no longer possess either the capability or the will to maintain order." In fact, this "highly subjective operational assumption," as Lowenberg put it, has been in the works for some time now. According to the General, the "US Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) has been engaged for some time in deliberative planning for implementation of Section 1076 of the 2007 National Defense Authorization. The formal NORTHCOM CONPLAN 2502-05 was approved by Secretary of Defense Gates on March 15, 2007," interestingly, seven months before the 2007 NDAA even became law.

Further, according to the General, the 2007 NDAA provisions "could be used to compel National Guard forces to engage in civil disturbance operations under federal control." In that case, NORTHCOM will effectuate its move to martial law, its "CONPLAN," by way of it's very own "civil disturbance plan," Department of Defense Civil Disturbance Plan 55-2, code-named Garden Plot.

Major Tom Herthel, of the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General School, recently laid out the "Rules of Engagement & Rules for the Use of Force" during the implementation of "GARDEN PLOT," which, according to Herthel, is "the plan to provide the basis for all preparation, deployment, employment, and redeployment of all designated forces, including National Guard forces called to active federal service, for use in domestic civil disturbance operations as directed by the President." Among other things, the "rules" allow for the use of lethal force during domestic "civil disturbance operations."

That is why many are urging Congress to repeal Section 1076 of the 2007 NDAA through immediate enactment of Senate Bill 513. Introduced in February 2007, and sponsored by Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) the bill seeks to repeal or as the Congress puts it, "revive previous authority on the use of the Armed Forces and the militia to address interference with State or Federal law, and for other purposes," through the "Repeal of Amendments Made by Public Law 109-364- Section 1076 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007."

It is critical that Senate Bill 513 becomes law, and that our popular struggle succeeds in beating back the President's attempt to further codify the im-moral and criminal seizure of state control via woefully ill-advised and dictatorial moves toward martial law and military rule.

[This article, originally written in October 2006 and updated here, was awarded the #2 "Most Censored News Story of 2006" by Project Censored – Ed.]

SOURCES:
(1) <http://leahy.senate.gov/press/200609/091906a.html> and <http:// leahy.senate.gov/press/200609/092906b.html>
See also: Congressional Research Service Report for Congress, "The Use of Federal Troops for Disaster Assistance: Legal Issues," by Jennifer K. Elsea, Legislative Attorney, August 14, 2006
(2) <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill+h109-5122>
(3) Journal of Counterterrorism & Homeland Security International, "Recent Contract Awards", Summer 2006, Vol.12, No.2, pg.8; See also, Peter Dale Scott, "Homeland Security Contracts for Vast New Detention Camps," New American Media, January 31, 2006.
(4) "Technology Transfer from Defense: Concealed Weapons Detection", National Institute of Justice Journal, No 229, August, 1995, pp.42-43.

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THIRD STREET TENANTS Continued....

had to claim in "good faith" that someday the mood would strike her to start sewing again. Screw the tenant who had been living in that apartment for years.

In our case, our building was under a tax lien and ended up being bought by a corporation which operates under their real estate company called Granite International Management, located in Brooklyn. They buy buildings in the name of LLCs (Limited Liability Companies.) Many tenants are already familiar with this company--Peter Yatrakis, the father of our landlord, has been buying buildings on the Lower East Side for years. His daughter, Catherine Economakis, her husband, and other family members, are partners owning at least 30 buildings on the Lower East Side, in Chelsea and in Hamilton Heights. A building they own at 11-13 Avenue D, having been emptied of most of its rent-stabilized tenants, is now up for sale for $7,750,000.

At the time of the attempted evictions against us, the Economakis' lawyer, Todd Rose, was already trying to evict a 23-unit apartment building on the Upper East Side of Manhattan for the "personal use" of his client Steven Croman of Croman Real Estate (known for his phony demolition at 345 East Fifth Street.) Rose's brother, fellow lawyer Peter Rose (with notorious landlord Robert Ohebshalom) was trying to evict an entire building on Jane Street for his "personal use." Our landlords were the next ones who suddenly had to have a whole building for themselves.

Since a corporation cannot claim "owner occupancy," Catherine and Alistair Economakis had the deed to the building transferred from the corporate entity of which they are a part to themselves under their personal names, for $0.00. That same day, they sent the "Notice of Non-Renewal" to the first tenant, but not before they paid a visit to Wasim Lone at GOLES [Good Old Lower East Side, a neighborhood tenant advocacy group–Ed.], to inform him that *they had "the right to do this." Wasim told* them that he would help us fight them, not sure what they hoped to accomplish by *coming to his office.* When we called GOLES a few days later, they were ready to help us.

When they took over our building in their names, the landlords evicted two tenants right away. As of this writing (July 2007), five tenants have either been evicted or have elected to leave as a result of deals with the landlords, and one tenant died before the end of his lease.. The tenants in the remaining nine rent-stabilized apartments are still hanging in there. The unhealthy conditions resulting from the Economakis' renovations and alternations to the building may have contributed to some of the families' willingness to accept landlord buy-outs.

The Economakis' claim that the six vacated apartments have been converted into a duplex and a triplex and that they are now living in the building. They have made certain tacky renovations to the exterior of their so-called mansion, including the addition of a fake cornice of molded plastic made in China. As we have documented graphically, sub-standard conditions now prevail in much of the interior of the building, with hallways and tenant mailboxes in disrepair.

We needed to hire a lawyer: the case rests on the premise of "good faith," which requires discovery evidence to be produced The DHCR ["New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal," which represents landlords' interests--Ed.] does not allow a tenant to get the rent history of a building, nor will they allow tenants to go back more than four years researching their own rent history–the lawyers have to request it. Most importantly, lawyers know the loopholes and tricks that the landlords are looking to exploit. No tenant is prepared for that. The housing court system has become increasingly unbalanced in favor of landlords, who consider hiring lawyers an operating expense. Tenants who cannot afford legal counsel are often being called to court on false charges, causing them to miss work and a day's pay to be there.

We took our case to the New York State Supreme Court, and were granted a temporary injunction against eviction. Our lawyer argued (basically) that the "owner occupancy" provision was not intended to take an entire building out of rent stabilization. Our landlords, as assumed, appealed the decision to the Pataki-appointed First Appellate Court, the same court that sided with landlord Gregg Singer over his destruction of the Charas community center on East Ninth Street and with the Archdiocese of New York over its destruction of the historic St. Brigids Church on East Eighth Street. This court ruled against us too. "One or more" apartments wasn't defined, so a whole building, hell, an entire block, was okay with them. All in the name of "property rights."

In April 2007, 28 State Legislators, initiated by State Senator Deborah Glick, signed on to a letter to State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, describing the First Appellate Court ruling as "dreadful" and warning that it had the potential to "undermine the ability of state agencies to enforce the Rent Stabilization Law and Code."

Our next step is to file a Motion to appeal with the State Court of Appeals in Albany. Meanwhile, several cases have restarted in Housing Court (all housing court cases had been on hold while the Supreme Court case was being heard.) Landlords are already drooling at the possibility of us losing this case.

We have heard from other tenants on Bergen Street in Brooklyn, whose landlords are attempting to evict their entire buildings for the same reason as ours. So much for the people who looked in disgust at the Lower East Side ten years ago, who now say "you're in the hot neighborhood, get over it and move to Brooklyn." Tell that to the people in Bushwick who are now being told they are in "hip trendy East Williamsburg" and to get out. If you can stand it without vomiting, look at the website of Massey Knakal Real Estate (which claims Staten Island and the South Bronx are "top hot real estate markets.')

Our lawyers, Steve Dobkin & Seth Miller, only represent tenants. Still, it is not easy. If the tenants in our building weren't splitting the legal bills, this would have been impossible. We have been holding stoop sales and benefits, and friends and neighbors, many in tight money situations themselves, have given donations to our tenants' association legal fund. We are hearing more horror stories from every part of our neighborhood--everyone who has lived and worked to make it a home, to whom community values are more important than property values.

The Lower East Side is living up to its reputation as a hotbed of tenant activism, and has rallied around the tenants of 47 East Third Street. On April 14, over 400 demonstrators clogged Third Street, expressing their support as tenants spoke from the steps of their building and pledged their intention of staying.

The attack on the tenants of 47 East Third Street is a back-door attempt to use a linguistic slip to legally evade the intent of New York City's rent regulations and drive us all out of here. All New York tenants need to keep a close eye on this situation and support the tenants of 47 East Third Street

Our tenants' association website (<http://47e3.org>) has the text of the court cases and other information about the building and our struggle to keep our apartments. Any support you can offer would be appreciated.

RENT HIKE BOARD Continued....

income, which is supposed to be good for low-income tenants, but is actually intended to soak those tenants with higher paying jobs, to the great profit of landlords, who would not have to open their books, though they would make tenants do so.

The net effect of income-based rent rules would be to turn low-income tenants against tenants with who are hanging in there economically, weakening the tenant movement through a divide and conquer strategy. The RGB would have to get authorization from the gang of thieves in Albany in order to change the rules either way. Even with the supposedly pro-tenant Elliot Spitzer as governor and the Democrats controlling the State Assembly, upstate Republicans like State Senate speaker Joe Bruno, who tried to abolish all rent regulations in 1997, are definitely capable of turning any statewide tenant legislation against us.

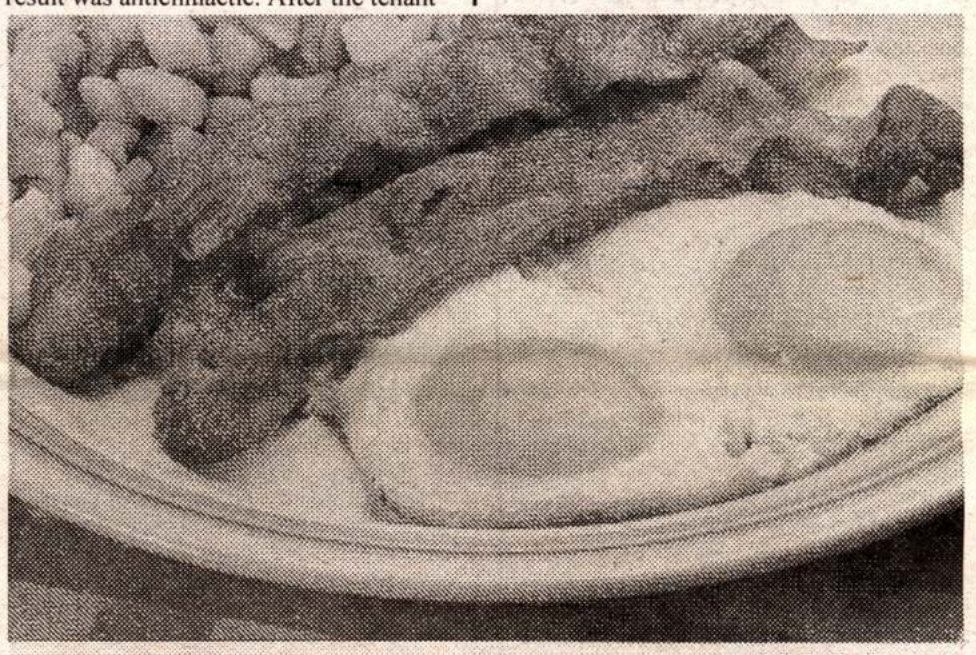
Nobody should push for changing the rent regulations fundamentally until the Urstadt Law, allowing Albany to dictate New York City's rent regulations, is abolished, and decisions like this can be made in New York City and not upstate.

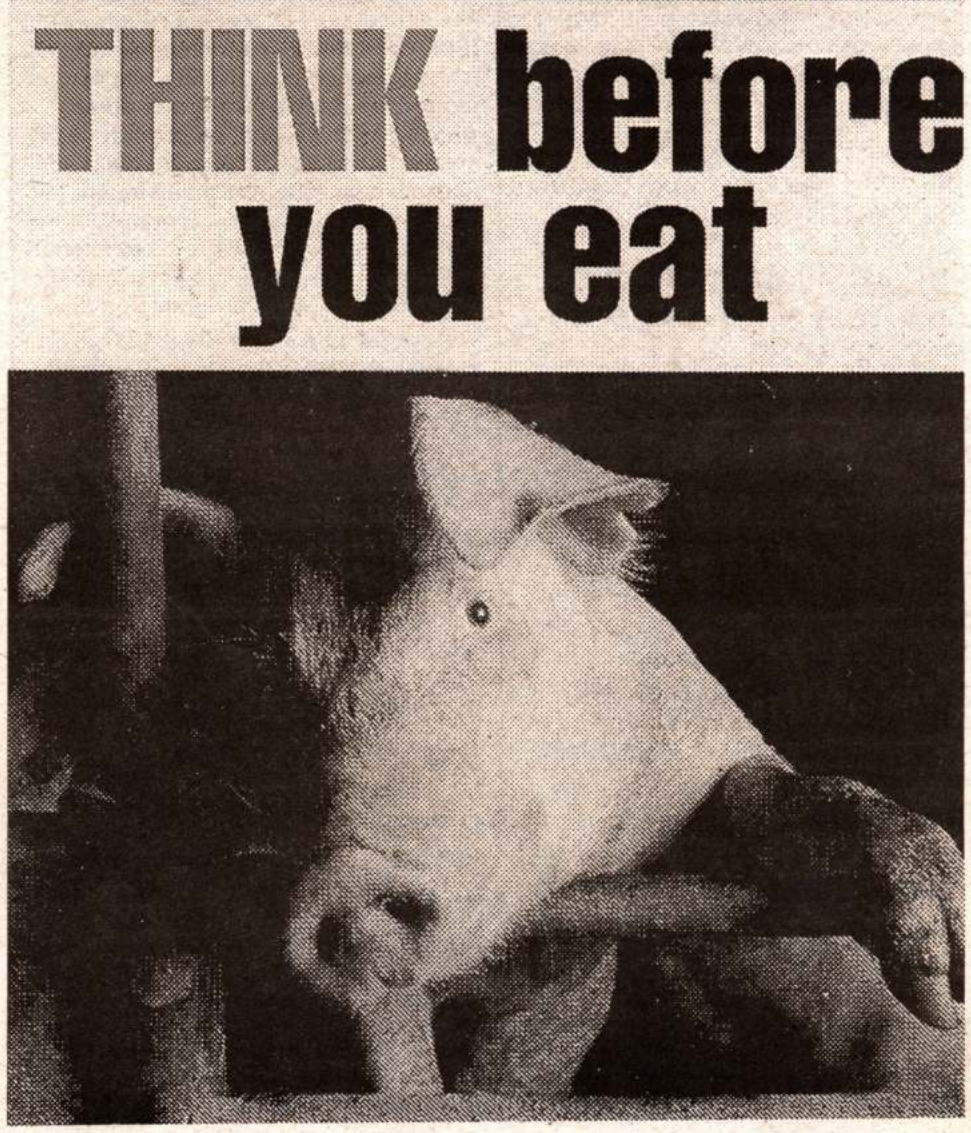
Getting back to the June 26 meeting, the result was anticlimactic. After the tenant and owner rep proposals were defeated 7-2 and Holder's proposal for a building inspection-based system was ruled off the table, Markus quickly proposed an increase of 3% for 1-year leases and 5.75% for 2-year leases. A vote was held; the five public members voted for it; the owner and tenant reps voted against it, and those increases passed 5-4.

That was pretty much it; the board adjourned amidst the curses of the tenants and the dirty deed was done.

The RGB's decision to raise regulated rents once again by a hefty amount will have the inexorable effect of removing many apartments from the rent regulation system altogether, since apartments surpassing $2,000 per month rent become deregulated when vacant, or if the combined income of the household surpasses $175,000.

Furthermore, as half of rent regulated tenants pay more than half their income in rent, many people will simply not be able to pay the increases and will be evicted. These nine people on the Rent Guidelines Board, appointed by the mayor from who knows where, simply have too much power over normal people's lives.





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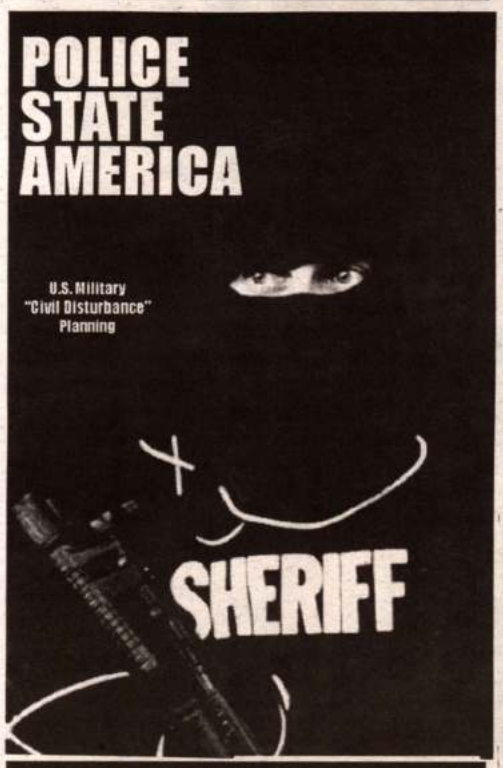

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911: IN PLANE SITE: Power Hour radio show host Dave von Kleist (www.thepowerhour.com) presents and analyzes mainstream media footage to raise questions about what type of planes hit the WTC twin towers and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, WTC leaseholder Larry Silverstein's admission of decision to "pull" 7 WTC, interviews with firefighters who heard explosions throughout the WTC towers before they collapsed and other footage broadcast only once and never seen again. Extras include local Oklahoma City tv news reports on April 19, 1995 on several high-powered explosives discovered in and removed from the Murrah Federal Bldg after the first explosion. These reports were killed by the following day and were not seen again!! Approx. **Highly recommended!** 60 min. (DVD) $10.00 + $1.50 shipping.

LOOSE CHANGE: A great companion to 911: In Plane Site, emphasizes controlled demolitions as the cause of the WTC collapses, examines Pentagon and WTC hits, black boxes, reports of WTC explosions, footage of explosives bursting from sides of twin towers, the shooting down of flight #93 over PA, cell phone calls from passengers, phoney Bin Laden footage used by media, and more. Approx. **Highly recommended!** 60 min. (DVD) $10.00 + $1.50 shipping.

UNCOVERED: The Whole Truth About The Iraq War: Takes you behind the walls of government, as CIA, Pentagon and foreign service experts speak out, many for the first time, detailing lies, misstatements and exaggerations that served as the reasons to fight a "preemptive" war that wasn't necessary. This documentary offers an in-depth look at the unsettling distortion of intelligence and "spin and hype" presented to the American people, the Congress and the press. Fighting wars to bring about regime change is in breach of international law, yet, throughout the fall of 2002, and into the weeks preceding the invasion of Iraq in March 2003, the Bush administration systematically distorted intelligence evidence and misled the public in order to turn opinion in favor of "regime change" in Iraq. Features interviews with more than 20 experts and footage of Bush and his cabinet members repeatedly insisting they have verifiable proof of Iraq's WMD. 56 min. (DVD) $10.00 + $1.50 shipping.

OUTFOXED: Rupert Murdoch's War On Journalism: "Fair and balanced"??? How about anything BUT?!?! For the first time ever, this documentary reveals the secrets of former Fox news producers, reporters, bookers and writers who expose what it's like to work for Fox News. These former Fox employees talk about how they were forced to push a "right-wing" point of view or risk their jobs. Examines media mogul Rupert Murdoch and his Australian company, News Corp., tracing how the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) helped Murdoch break the rules to establish a fourth network in the US. Many extras. (DVD) $10.00 + $1.50 shipping.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL: The War On Our Civil Liberties: Made in conjunction with the ACLU; details the shocking way that civil liberties of American citizens and immigrants alike have been infringed upon, curtailed, and rolled back since 9/11 and the USA PATRIOT Act, with facts and stories that illuminate administration lies, wrong-headed policies, and the real victims of these actions-- the American people. 60 min. (DVD) $10.00 + $1.50 shipping.

PAINFUL DECEPTIONS: An Analysis of the September 11th Attack: (A video supplement to the book Painful Questions by Eric Hufschmid) Could Osama Bin Laden pull off such a devastating attack? Can steel buildings collapse and crumble into dust? Did an unseen jet liner hit the Pentagon? These and other questions are answered in this powerfully analyzed, scientifically accurate presentation. Approx. 90 min. (DVD) $10.00 + $1.50 shipping.

BUSH FAMILY FORTUNES: THE BEST DEMOCRACY MONEY CAN BUY: Award-winning reporter-sleuth Greg Palast on the trail of the Bush family, from the 2000 Florida election finagling, to the Saudi connection, to the Bush team's spiking the FBI investigation of the bin Laden family and the secret State Department plans for post-war Iraq. Based on Palast's hard-hitting investigative reports for the BBC, the UK's Guardian and Observer newspapers, and his book **The Best Democracy Money Can Buy**. Contains exclusive extras, interactive documents and montage art by Winston Smith. **Highly recommended!** 60 min. (DVD) $15.00 + $1.50 shipping.

BUSH'S BRAIN: Who's Really Running The Country? Based on the book "BUSH's BRAIN: How Karl Rove Made George W. Bush Presidential" by journalists James C. Moore + Wayne Slater; explores Rove's role in Bush's rise his political skills and secret machinations. 80 min. (DVD) $15.00 + $1.50 shipping.

URBAN WARRIOR: The Militarization of American Law Enforcement: Investigates the erosion of the Posse Commitatus Act, which provides for the separation of the military and police, by numerous Executive Orders and congressional actions. Examines the Seattle WTO protests, the Elian Gonzalez raid, the SWAT Team shooting of Miami resident Richard Brown and more. **Well-produced and highly recommended!** Approx. 90 min. (VHS) $15.00 + $3 shipping.

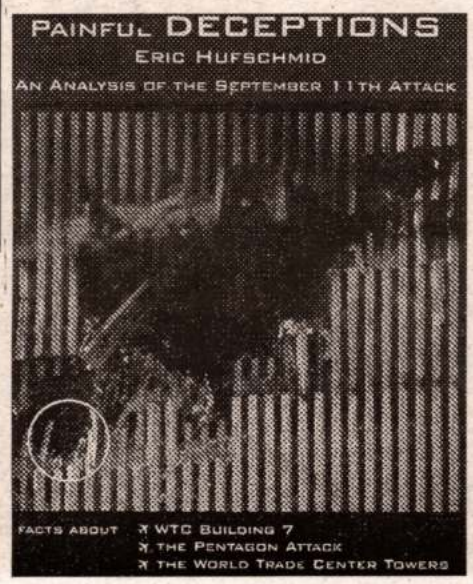
THE TWO KENNEDYS: Carefully untangles the web of conspiracy between organized crime, anti-Castro exiles, and oil barons that resulted in the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy. **Very rare**! Approx. 115 min. (DVD) $15.00 + $1.50 shipping.

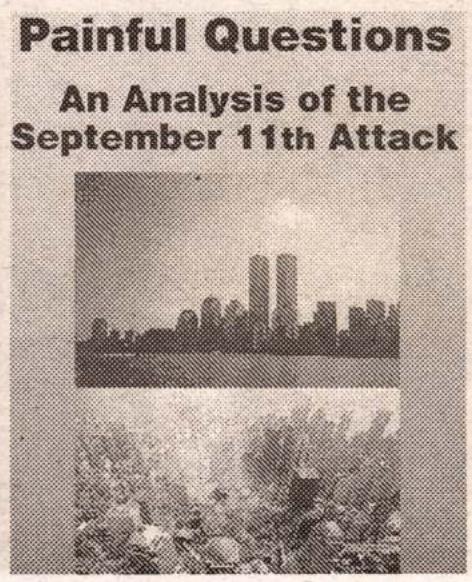
THE PLOT TO KILL ROBERT KENNEDY: Investigative journalist Ted Charak dissects the assassination of RFK with witnesses and forensic evidence, exposing destruction of evidence and other cover-up attempts by police. **Very rare!** Approx. 95 min. (DVD) $15.00 + $1.50 shipping.

WEAPONS OF MASS DECEPTION: There were two wars going on in Iraq–one was fought with armies of soldiers, bombs and a fearsome military force. The other was fought alongside it with cameras, satellites, armies of journalists and propaganda techniques. One war was rationalized as an effort to find and remove Weapons of Mass Destruction–the other was carried out by even more powerful Weapons of Mass Deception. Put together by Danny Schechter "The News Dissector" of Globalvision. **Highly Recommended!** 98 min. (DVD) $20.00 + $1.50 shipping.

WACO: The Rules of Engagement: Explosive documentary exposes the ugly truth behind the botched BATF raid on and subsequent incineration of the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas on April 19, 1993. This film not only punches holes in the outrageous lies told by the BATF, FBI and gov't officials, but also shows army tanks starting the fires that killed the Davidians, as well as machine gun fire by gov't snipers at the rear of the buildings as fires raged, all out of view of media film crews. Includes graphic video of burnt and mutilated bodies, caused by inhalation and burning of military CS gas. **Highly recommended--this is a must see!** This will shock you and make you sick and angry at the same time!! 136 min. (VHS) $20.00 + $3 shipping.

WACO: A NEW Revelation: The film that triggered a new Congressional investigation and got the FBI to change their story. Features items from WACO evidence lockers; FBI/Special Forces/CIA testimonies; interviews with Branch Davidian survivors. **Highly recommended!** 110 min. (VHS) $25.00 + $3.00 shipping.





PRINTED MATTER FROM OTHER SOURCES:

WORLD WAR III ILLUSTRATED: Political art and comics by Seth Tobocman, Sabrina Jones, Peter Kuper, Scott Cunningham, Angela Bocage, Eric Drooker, Sandy Jiminez, Mike Diana, Mac McGill and others. $4.00 each + $1 shipping.

GLOBAL OUTLOOK MAGAZINE: Top-notch investigative journalism coming in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001. $5.00 each + $1 shipping.

HOW TO OPEN HANDCUFFS WITHOUT KEYS: Features of cuffs; making lockpicks; more. 44 pgs (book). $11.95 + $1 shipping.

HOW TO CLEAR YOUR ADULT AND JUVENILE CRIMINAL RECORDS: Written by a career criminal who successfully removed felonies and misdemeanors from his rap sheet. Detailed steps on how you can clear yours, including legal language with statutes from different states for you to use. For those with criminal records + those whose records contain inaccuracies that can hurt them in the future. **Highly recommended!!** 102 pgs (book). $12.95 + $2 shipping.

POLICE STATE AMERICA: US Military involvement in domestic "Civil Disturbance" planning and law enforcement in violation of the Posse Commitatus Act. 100 pgs (book). $13.00 + $1 shipping.

PAINFUL QUESTIONS: An Analysis of the September 11th Attack: Author Eric Hufschmid picks apart the events of Sept. 11, 2001, asking and answering tough questions with photos and illustrations. 158 pgs (book). $15.00 +$2.50 shipping.

FORTUNATE SON: George W. Bush and The Making of an American President (J.H. Hatfield): Researches George W.'s draft- dodging, cocaine habit, Bush family's anti-Semitism, connections to the BCCI Scandal, SEC investigation for insider-trading, and more. After media trashing of the author, this book was pulled by its former publisher, but was re-published by Soft Skull Press. 415 pgs (book). $16.50 + $3 shipping.

WAR IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD (Seth Tobocman): Documents a decade of struggle against police brutality + gentrification on the Lower East Side through stories told in Tobocman's unique black and white drawings. 328 pgs (book). $ 20.00 + $2.50 shipping.

BLACKLISTED NEWS: SECRET HISTORIES FROM CHICAGO TO 1984: A compilation of underground news, stories, flyers, photos, art and more, published by the Youth International Party (YIPPIE!) from 1967-1984. **This is out of print and cannot be found anywhere else!!** 735 pgs (book). $25.00 + $3 shipping.

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Stand UP Against MARTIAL LAW